



Travis County

Community Development Block Grant Program:

Improving the Affordability,
Accessibility and Sustainability
of Neighborhoods and
Community Services

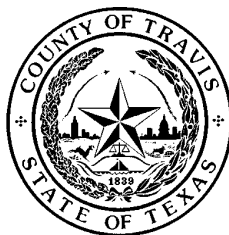
Annual Action Plan for
Program Year 2009:
October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010



Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

Drafted **06/16/2009**

Approved by TCCC **08/11/2009**



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Standard Form 424

Date Submitted	Applicant Identifier	Type of Submission	
Date Received by state	State Identifier	Application	Pre-application
Date Received by HUD 8/13/09	Federal Identifier 746000192	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction
Applicant Information			
Name: Travis County		UOG Code: TX489453	
Address: P.O. Box 1748		DUNS Number: 030908842	
		Travis County Commissioners Court	
City: Austin	State: Texas	Health and Human Services	
Zip Code: 78767		Executive Manager's Office	
Employer Identification Number (EIN):		County: Travis	
74-6000192		Grant Start Date: 10/01/09	
Applicant Type:		Specify Other Type if necessary:	
Local Government: County			
Program Funding		U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	
Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers; Descriptive Title of Applicant Project(s); Areas Affected by Project(s) (cities, Counties, localities etc.); Estimated Funding			
Community Development Block Grant		14.218 Entitlement Grant	
CDBG Project Titles Homebuyer Assistance, Homeowner Rehabilitation, Street Improvements Lava Lane, Public Services, Other: Social Work Services Expansion, Youth Services: Youth and Family Assessment Center (YFAC) Flex Fund Expansion and Grant Administration.		Description of Areas Affected by CDBG Project(s) Unincorporated areas of Travis County	
\$CDBG Grant Amount 866,380	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged	\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	0	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds \$103,000	\$Grantee Funds Leveraged		
\$Anticipated Program Income 0	Other (Describe)		
Total Funds Leveraged for CDBG-based Project(s)			
Home Investment Partnerships Program		14.239 HOME	
HOME Project Titles N/A		Description of Areas Affected by HOME Project(s)	
\$HOME Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged	\$Additional State Funds Leveraged		
\$Locally Leveraged Funds	\$Grantee Funds Leveraged		

\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS		14.241 HOPWA	
HOPWA Project Titles N/A		Description of Areas Affected by HOPWA Project(s)	
\$HOPWA Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOPWA-based Project(s)			
Emergency Shelter Grants Program		14.231 ESG	
ESG Project Titles N/A		Description of Areas Affected by ESG Project(s)	
\$ESG Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for ESG-based Project(s)			
Congressional Districts of:		Is application subject to review by state Executive Order 12372 Process?	
Applicant Districts 10,21 and 25	Project Districts 10, 21 and 25		
Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt? If "Yes" please include an additional document explaining the situation.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	This application was made available to the state EO 12372 process for review on
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Program is not covered by EO 12372
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Program has not been selected by the state for review

Person to be contacted regarding this application		
First Name: Samuel	Middle Initial: T	Last Name: Biscoe
Title: County Judge	Phone: 512/854-9555	Fax: 512/854-9535
Email: Sam.Biscoe@co.travis.tx.us	Website: www.co.travis.tx.us	Other Contacts: Sherri E. Fleming and Christy Moffett P: 512/854-4100 F: 512/854-4115
Signature of Authorized Representative		Date Signed

Acronyms

Throughout this report, the reader will note the following acronyms:

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AI	Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
AP	Action Plan
CAPER	Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
Con-Plan	Consolidated Plan (governs CDBG Programs)
CPD	Community Planning and Development (part of HUD)
CPP	Citizen Participation Plan
EA	Environmental Assessment
ESG	Emergency Shelter Grant
FHA	Federal Housing Administration (part of HUD)
FSS	Family Support Services (a Travis County Social Service Program)
HACT	Housing Authority of Travis County
HHS/VS	Travis County Department of Health & Human Service and Veteran Services
HOME	HOME Investment Partnership Program (HUD's Program)
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HUD's Program)
HTE	Accounting Software used by Travis County
HUD	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
IDIS	Integrated Disbursement Information System (HUD's Financial Management System)
LMI	Low- and Moderate-Income (80% or below median household income)
MFI	Median Family Income
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
ORCA	Office of Rural Community Affairs
PY	Program Year
PY09	Program Year 2009
RFP	Request for Proposals
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
TC	Travis County
TCHFC	Travis County Housing Finance Corporation
TxDOT	Texas Department of Transportation
TNR	Travis County Department of Transportation and Natural Resources
URA	Uniform Relocation Act

Introduction

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) initiative is a federal grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program provides annual grants to cities and counties to carry out a variety of community development activities aimed at revitalizing neighborhoods, improving affordable housing options, and providing improved community facilities and services.

Based on its population, in 2006, Travis County qualified as an urban county, a federal designation which afforded the County the opportunity to apply for CDBG funds. That year, Travis County applied and received CDBG funds for the first time and has continued to receive funding for the past three years. The County's annual allocation is based on a HUD-designed formula that takes into account the county's population size, poverty rate, housing overcrowding, and age of housing.

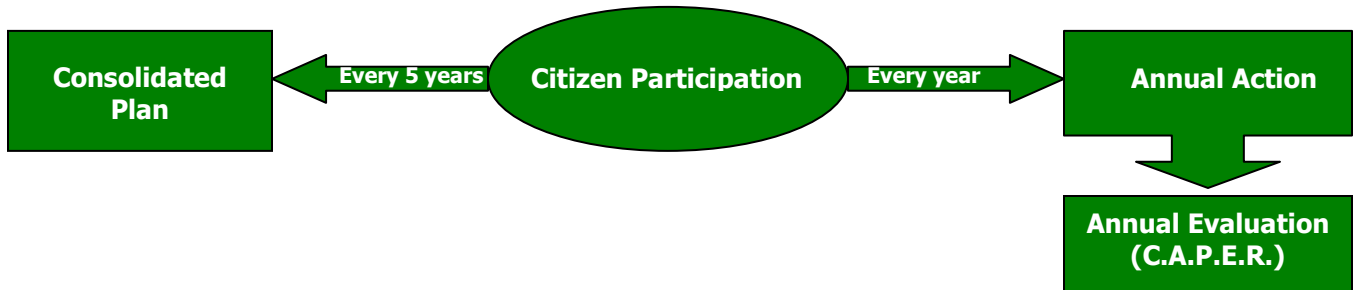
Usage of CDBG funds must meet a variety of parameters set nationally by HUD and locally by the County. Federal regulation requires that a minimum of 70% of the CDBG funds focus on projects for low- to moderate- income residents. Additionally, Travis County's allocation specifically targets residents living in the unincorporated areas of the county and to be eligible, the activities must meet one of the following HUD's national objectives:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income persons;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight; or
- Address other community development needs that present a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community.

The administration of the CDBG program follows a cycle that includes the drafting of a Consolidated Plan, an Action Plan, and an annual evaluation. The Consolidated Plan (Con-Plan) identifies the County's community and housing needs and outlines the strategies to address those needs over a five year period. The Annual Action Plan (AP) defines the specific activities to be undertaken during each program year (PY) to address the priorities established in the Con-Plan. An evaluation is conducted annually to assess yearly accomplishments.

The following figure is a simplified visual representation of the CDBG cycle. As shown, citizen participation has a central role in setting the priorities to be addressed and defining projects to tackle identified needs.

Figure 1: CDBG Cycle



The Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS) is the lead agency designated by the County for the grant administration of the CDBG program and the single point of contact with HUD.

Executive Summary

The Travis County Program Year 2009 (PY09) Action Plan lists the specific activities the County will undertake beginning October 1, 2009 to meet the goals and objectives outlined in the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan. The Action Plan details how the County will use the CDBG funds and describes other available resources to address the County's housing and non-housing community development needs.

Public Input

The Action Plan highlights different opportunities the public had during the development of the PY09 Action Plan to provide input on the usage of the CDBG funds. During the months of February and March the County held public hearings and solicited proposals for CDBG projects.

Solicitation of input and invitation to participate in the public hearings were posted on the County's website, and were published in newspapers of general circulation. In addition, notifications by mail and e-mail were sent to service providers, to citizens who had previously attended public hearings, to the community liaison departments of schools districts and to neighborhood associations. The announcements and all the participation materials were available in English and Spanish.

Lastly, two public hearings were held on June 30 and July 14, 2009 and a 30-day public comment period occurred from June 24 to July 23, 2009 to solicit final comment on the proposed uses of CDBG funds.

Proposed Activities for Program Year 2009

The Program Year 2009 CDBG award for Travis County is \$ 866,380. These funds will be used for the following activities:

1. Homebuyer Assistance: \$ 528,000

Financial assistance to households to purchase homes through Shared Appreciation Gap and Down Payment Assistance. The project will be administered by the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation as a designated sub-recipient. The impact will be to increase the home affordability for 35 households.

2. Homeowner Rehabilitation: \$ 130,000

Owner occupied minor home repair to move homes toward Housing Quality Standards. This project will be either administered by a non-profit, designated as a sub-recipient, identified through a formal application process or by the HHS/VS Department. The impact will be the repairs of 5 housing units.

3. Street Improvements: Lava Lane: \$ 60,000

Acquisition of Right of Way and project management time to support the improvement of the unaccepted portion of Lava Lane, a road in Precinct 4. This project will be administered by the Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Public Works Division. The project will directly benefit 20 households and indirectly benefit 1297 people who live in the block group.

4. Public Services, Other: \$ 35,000

Continuation of an internal HHS/VS program through the Family Support Services Division to expand social work services in the unincorporated areas of Precincts 1 & 4. This project will be administered by the Travis County HHS/VS, Family Support Services Division. The program will provide assistance to 120 people.

5. Youth Services: \$ 32,100

This program funds the expansion of Flex Funding available through the Youth and Family Assessment Center program (YFAC) to provide services to assist high-risk youth living in the unincorporated areas, by improving their school performance and preventing them from falling in the juvenile justice system. This project will be administered by the Travis County HHS&VS, Family Support Services Division and will provide assistance to 30 youth.

6. Administration: \$ 81,280

The funds allocated for administration will pay for the operating expenses associated with the grant including advertisement, offices supplies, training, contracted services, interpreting, and other business related expenses. Additionally, the funds will pay for a portion of the salary for the CDBG Planner.

The following figure summarizes the proposed projects and allocations for program year 2009, and the categories under which each project falls.

Figure 2: Proposed Projects for Program Year 2009

Project/Activities	Amount
Community Development	
Homebuyer Assistance	\$528,000
Owner Occupied Home Repair	\$130,000
Street Improvements: Lava Lane	\$60,000
Public Services	
Public Services Other: Social Work Services	\$35,000
Youth Services	\$32,100
Administration and Planning	
CDBG Administration	\$81,280
Total PY09 Grant	\$866,380

Past Performance

The 2009 program year marks the fourth year Travis County has received CDBG funds. As a new entitlement, Travis County is working to establish the systems and procedures to support compliance with HUD requirements and to effectively manage the grant.

During the first program year, no funds were spent given the numerous items needed for the initial grant start up, and due to an allocation error from HUD, which significantly delayed Travis County CDBG's operation. Funds from program years 2006, 2007, and 2008 are being spent concurrently. As the projects are implemented, monitoring is taking place to assure grant compliance and project effectiveness.

Timely Spending of Funds

As part of the mandate from Congress to administer the CDBG program, HUD determines annually whether each CDBG entitlement is carrying out its activities "in a timely manner". HUD conducts an analysis of each entitlement's timeliness of spending 10 months into each grant year. For Travis County, the timeliness test started in July 2008, and will continue to occur every July. The threshold for compliance with timeliness is having no more than 1.5 times the current year's allocation unspent. Travis County's did not meet its first timeliness test with a ratio of 1.99, and the County does not anticipate meeting the 1.5 ratio in July 2009. The CDBG office is working with HUD to improve timeliness and will continue to assess the spending of funds and the progress of projects to ensure compliance for 2010 and beyond.



Travis County

Section I: General Questions

Annual Action Plan for
Program Year 2009:
October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

Activities to be Undertaken

Project # 1: Homebuyer Assistance - \$528,000

Project Description:

In an effort to make housing affordable to “first-time home purchasing” families whose annual household income is at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), the Travis County Affordable Housing Ownership Program will make Shared Appreciation Gap Financing and Down payment Assistance loans available. The project will be administered by the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation (TCHFC) as a designated sub-recipient. All program income will be reinvested into the Homebuyers Assistance program.

Shared Appreciation Gap Financing:

Households earning 60% or less of the area median income may obtain funds (up to \$30,000) to reduce the sales price to an amount affordable to the household. Actual assistance amount will be calculated based on actual family need. The loan is a 0 % interest, 30-year note with no required annual or monthly payments. Upon resale, refinancing, lease or other transfer of title, the loan must be repaid in full plus a percentage of the house’s appreciation value.

Down Payment Assistance:

Households earning 80% or less of the area Median Family Income (MFI) may obtain funds (\$8,000) to cover down payment and reasonable closing costs. The loan is a 0 % interest, 5 year-note with no required annual or monthly payments. The loan is forgiven at a pro-rata rate of 20% for each year of homeownership. The loan is fully forgiven at the end of 5 years. A minimum house hold investment of \$500 is required.

All households who are interested in assistance through the Travis County Affordable Housing Ownership Program are required to participate in a minimum of eight (8) hours of HUD-certified housing counseling. At the time the homebuyer is approved for the program, the homebuyer must meet with TCHFC staff for a no cost one hour consultation providing a detailed review of the program.

Project 1: General Project Information	
CDBG Funding:	\$528,000
Leverage Funding:	Not applicable
Project Delivery:	Travis County Housing Finance Corporation
Project Oversight:	Travis County Health and Human Services & Veteran Services
Expected Start/ Completion Date:	November 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010
Location:	Unincorporated areas of the County

Project 1: Priority and Performance Measurement Information (HUD –prescribed)			
Priority Need Category:	Homeownership	Project:	Homebuyer Assistance
Eligible Activity:	Direct Homeownership Assistance	Outcome Category	Availability/Accessibility
Objective Category	Decent Housing	Specific Objective	Increase the affordability of owner housing
Citation	24 CFR 570.201 (n)	Accomplishment	35 households
Eligibility	LMH	Matrix Code	13, Direct Home Ownership Assistance
Priority in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan#:	Medium	Travis County HTE #:	HCBD01

Project # 2: Home Rehabilitation - \$130,000

Project Description:

This project will fund minor home repair services to move homes towards Housing Quality Standards to low and moderate income homeowners in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The program seeks to improve the energy efficiency, physical living conditions, and safety in owner-occupied homes. A 0% interest, forgivable 5-year loan up to \$24,999 with no required annual or monthly payments is available. The loan is forgiven at a pro-rata rate of 20% for each year of home ownership. Examples of potential improvements include connections of houses to long-term viable sources of water (not part of a stand alone infrastructure project), complementing weatherization services of other funding sources, septic tank repairs, and electrical and plumbing repairs. In the event that program income is created, it will be reinvested into the Home Rehabilitation project.

These funds are targeted to homeowners at or below 80% MFI in the unincorporated areas of the county. This project will be either administered by a non-profit, designated as a sub-recipient, identified through a formal application process or by the HHS/VS department.

Project 2: General Project Information	
CDBG Funding:	\$130,000
Leverage Funding:	To be determined
Program Delivery:	Designated sub-recipient or Travis County Health and Human Service and Veterans Service
Program Oversight:	Travis County Health and Human Service and Veteran Services
Estimated Start/ Completion Date:	Contract in place by November 2009 Program delivery begins January 2010
Location:	Homes in the unincorporated areas of Travis County

Project 2: Priority and Performance Measurement Information (HUD –prescribed)			
Priority Need Category:	Owner Occupied Housing	Project:	Rehabilitation of existing units
Eligible Activity:	Rehabilitation	Outcome Category	Availability/ Accessibility
Objective Category	Suitable Living Environment	Specific Objective	Improve the quality of owner housing
Citation	570.202	Accomplishment	5 Housing Units
Eligibility	LMH	Matrix Code	14A, Rehabilitation, Single Unit Residential
Priority in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan#	High	Travis County HTE #:	HCID02

Project # 3: Street Improvements: Lave Lane - \$60,000

Project Description:

This project funds the acquisition of Right of Way and project management time to support the improvement of the unaccepted portion of Lava Lane, a road in Precinct 4. This is the second phase of a three phase project to complete the road improvement. The improvements to this substandard road will provide a new durable road that will allow property owners, school busses, mail service providers, and emergency service providers to have all-weather access to the properties. Additionally, the improvements will allow the road to meet County roadway standards so that it can be accepted onto the County system for future maintenance and traffic safety enforcement. Any dollars not used for phase 2, will be rolled over for phase 3 of this project.

This project will be administered by the Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Public Works Division. The project will directly benefit 20 households and indirectly benefit 1297 people who live in the block group.

Project 3: General Project Information	
CDBG Funding:	\$60,000
Leverage Funding:	Not Applicable
Program Delivery:	Travis County Transportation and Natural Resource Department
Program Oversight:	Travis County Health and Human Service and Veteran Services
Expected Start/ Completion Date:	February 2010: Engineering, Design, and Environmental Completed September 2010: Acquisition of Right of Way
Location:	Lava Lane, Precinct 4

Project 3: Priority and Performance Measurement Information (HUD –prescribed)			
Priority Need Category:	Infrastructure	Project:	Street Improvements
Eligible Activity:	Street Improvements	Outcome Category	Sustainability
Objective Category	Suitable Living Environment	Specific Objective	Improve quality of public improvements for lower income persons
Citation	570.201 (c)	Accomplishment	1297 Individuals (persons in block group)
Eligibility	LMA	Matrix Code	03 K Street Improvements
Priority in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan#	High	Travis County HTE #:	HCDU03

Project # 4: Continuation of FSS Social Work Services Expansion Project - \$ 35,000

Project Description:

This program is an internal Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service expansion of existing services. The program will allow the continuation of the PY07 and PY08 expansion of social work services by one social worker, increasing capacity to provide case management, information and referral, non-clinical counseling, crisis intervention and outreach in the unincorporated areas of precincts 1 and 4. The social worker works at a Travis County HHS&VS facility, however, to reduce transportation barriers, the social worker provides the majority of service provision through home visits.

Project 4: General Project Information

CDBG Funding:	\$ 35,000
Leverage Funding:	Youth and Family Assessment Center (YFAC) Flex Funds – to be determined Best Single Source (BSS) Funds – to be determined
Program Delivery:	Family Support Services (FSS) Division of the Travis County Health and Human Services & Veteran Services
Program Oversight:	Travis County Health and Human Services & Veteran Services
Expected Start/ Completion Date:	April 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010
Location:	Households residing in precincts 1 & 4 of the unincorporated areas of TC

Project 4: Priority and Performance Measurement Information (HUD –prescribed)

Priority Need Category:	Public Services, Other	Project:	Social Work Services Program
Eligible Activity:	Public Services	Outcome Category	Availability/ Accessibility
Objective Category	Suitable Living Environment	Specific Objective	Improve the availability of services for low/moderate income persons
Citation	570.201 (e)	Accomplishment	120 people
Eligibility	LMC	Matrix Code	05, Public Services (General)
Priority in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan#:	High	Travis County HTE #:	HSOD04

Project # 5: Youth and Family Assessment Center (YFAC) Flex Fund Expansion - \$ 32,100

Project Description:

The YFAC program is an internal Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service expansion of existing services. Flex Funding through the YFAC program assists high-risk children by improving their school performance and preventing them from falling in the juvenile justice system through traditional services such as therapy and nontraditional services like parent coaching. Other examples of services include skill building classes, tutoring, extracurricular activities, or mentoring.

Approximately 30 youth will be assisted. The Family Support Services Division Social Work Services staff will outreach, assess and manage the flex fund expansion dollars. \$2100 of the funding will support program delivery through an inter-local agreement with Austin Travis County MHMR.

Project 5: General Project Information

CDBG Funding:	\$ 32,100
Leverage Funding:	Other Youth and Family Assessment Center (YFAC) Flex Funds – to be determined
Program Delivery:	Family Support Services (FSS) Division of the Travis County Health and Human Services & Veteran Services
Program Oversight:	Travis County Health and Human Services & Veteran Services
Expected Start/ Completion Date:	November 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010
Location:	Children/Youth residing in precincts 1 & 4 of the unincorporated areas of TC

Project 5: Priority and Performance Measurement Information (HUD –prescribed)

Priority Need Category:	Public Services	Project:	Youth Services
Eligible Activity:	Public Services	Outcome Category	Availability/ Accessibility
Objective Category	Suitable Living Environment	Specific Objective	Improve the availability of services for low/moderate income persons
Citation	570.201 (e)	Accomplishment	30 children/youth
Eligibility	LMC	Matrix Code	05D, Youth Services
Priority in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan#:	High	Travis County HTE #:	HSYD05

Project # 6: Administrative Operating Expenses – \$ 81,332

Project Description:

The funds allocated for administration will pay for the operating expenses associated with the grant including office supplies, training, contracted services, interpreting, membership and other business related expenses. This allocation will also partially fund the salary of the CDBG Planner.

Project 6: General Project Information	
CDBG Funding:	\$81,332
Leverage Funding:	Travis County General Fund = Approximately \$103,000
Program Delivery:	Travis County Health and Human Service & Veteran Services
Program Oversight:	Travis County Health and Human Service & Veteran Services
Expected Start/ Completion Date:	October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010
Location:	Not Applicable

Project 6: Priority and Performance Measurement Information (HUD –prescribed)			
Priority Need Category:	Not Applicable	Project:	Program Administration
Eligible Activity:	Administration and Planning	Outcome Category	Not Applicable
Objective Category	Not Applicable	Specific Objective	Not Applicable
Citation	570.206	Accomplishment	Other, Effective administration of the grant
Eligibility	Not Applicable	Matrix Code	21A, General Program Administration
Priority in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan#:	Not Applicable	Travis County HTE #:	HAGD06

CDBG Carry Over Chart

This chart represents the estimated total CDBG dollars available for use during PY09 including carry over estimated amounts from PY06 through PY08. The percentages of the areas of investments for public services and administration and planning were calculated to demonstrate the amounts allocated in each area do not exceed the program caps of 15 % for public service and 20 % for administration and planning.

CDBG Area of Investment	CDBG Activity	PY 2009 Funds by Activity	Carry Over From PY06-PY08**	TOTAL	Percent of Activity Investment	Percent of CDBG Area Investment
Community Development	1. Owner Housing: Production of New Units via Land Acquisition	\$0	\$445,518	\$445,518		
	2. Infrastructure to Support Affordable Housing	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000		
	3. Street Improvements: Apache Shores	\$0	\$654,636	\$654,636		
	4. Street Improvements: Lava Lane	\$60,000	\$39,159	\$99,159		
	5. Owner Occupied: Home Rehabilitation	\$130,000	\$106,136	\$236,136		
	6. Homebuyer Assistance	\$528,000	\$0	\$528,000		
Public Services	7. Public Services, Other: Social Work Expansion	\$ 35,000	\$39,300	\$74,300	8.6%	12%
	8. Public Services, Youth: YFAC Expansion	\$32,100	\$0	\$32,100	3.7%	
Administration & Planning	9. Planning: Water/Wastewater Planning	\$0	\$45,000	\$45,000	5.2%	18%
	10. Administration	\$81,280	\$30,000	\$111,280	12.8%	
TOTAL		\$866,380	\$1,859,749	\$2,726,129		

Performance Measurements

A total of 190 households will directly benefit from the projects proposed in the PY 2009 Action Plan. In addition, when completed the Lava Lane street improvement project is estimated to indirectly benefit 1297 people (the number of people living in the block group). The following figure presents each proposed project with the corresponding outcome objective and performance indicator as prescribed by HUD's performance measurement framework.

Figure 4: Performance Indicators for the Proposed PY 2009 Projects

Specific Objectives	Outcome Objectives	Sources of Funds	Performance Indicators	Expected #	Actual #	Percent Completed
DH-2 Affordability of Decent Housing						
Homebuyer Assistance	Improve the affordability of decent housing by providing homebuyer assistance to very low to moderate income households	CDBG	▪ Number of households who will purchase homes	35	To be determined	
DH-3 Sustainability of Decent Housing						
Homeowner Rehabilitation	Improve the quality of housing by offering rehabilitation assistance to very low to moderate income households	CDBG	▪ Number of housing units	5	To be determined	
SL-1 Availability/Accessibility of Living Environment						
Public Services, Other	Improve the access to a suitable living environment by increasing the availability of services to low/mod income persons	CDBG	▪ Number of people assisted with expanded access to a service	120	To be determined	
Youth Services	Improve the access to a suitable living environment by increasing the availability of services to low/mod income youth	CDBG	▪ Number of people assisted with expanded access to a service	30	To be determined	
SL-1 Sustainability of Living Environment						
Street Improvements Lava Lane	Improve the living environment by improving a road	CDBG	▪ Number of people who will benefit from improved road	1297	To be determined	
Not Applicable						
Project 6: Administration	Not applicable	CDBG	▪ Other – effective grant administration	Not Applicable	To be determined	

The coding system used in Figure 3 follows the numbering system established in the CDBG Community Planning and Development Outcome Performance Measurement System developed by HUD. The outcome/objective numbers stand for the following:

Figure 4: Numbering System for Outcome and Objective Coding

Objective	Outcome		
	Availability/Accessibility	Affordability	Sustainability
Decent Housing	DH-1	DH-2	DH-3
Suitable Living Environment	SL-1	SL-2	SL-3
Economic Opportunity	EO-1	EO-2	EO-3

Geographic Distribution of Projects

Travis County CDBG program does not have any designated target areas, however, one of the projects, the Social Service Project, focuses on the county precincts 1 & 4 based on the concentration of low to moderate income residents. These precincts also have a larger minority concentration than other parts of the County. The goal for focusing services in those areas is to improve access to services and quality of life for residents.

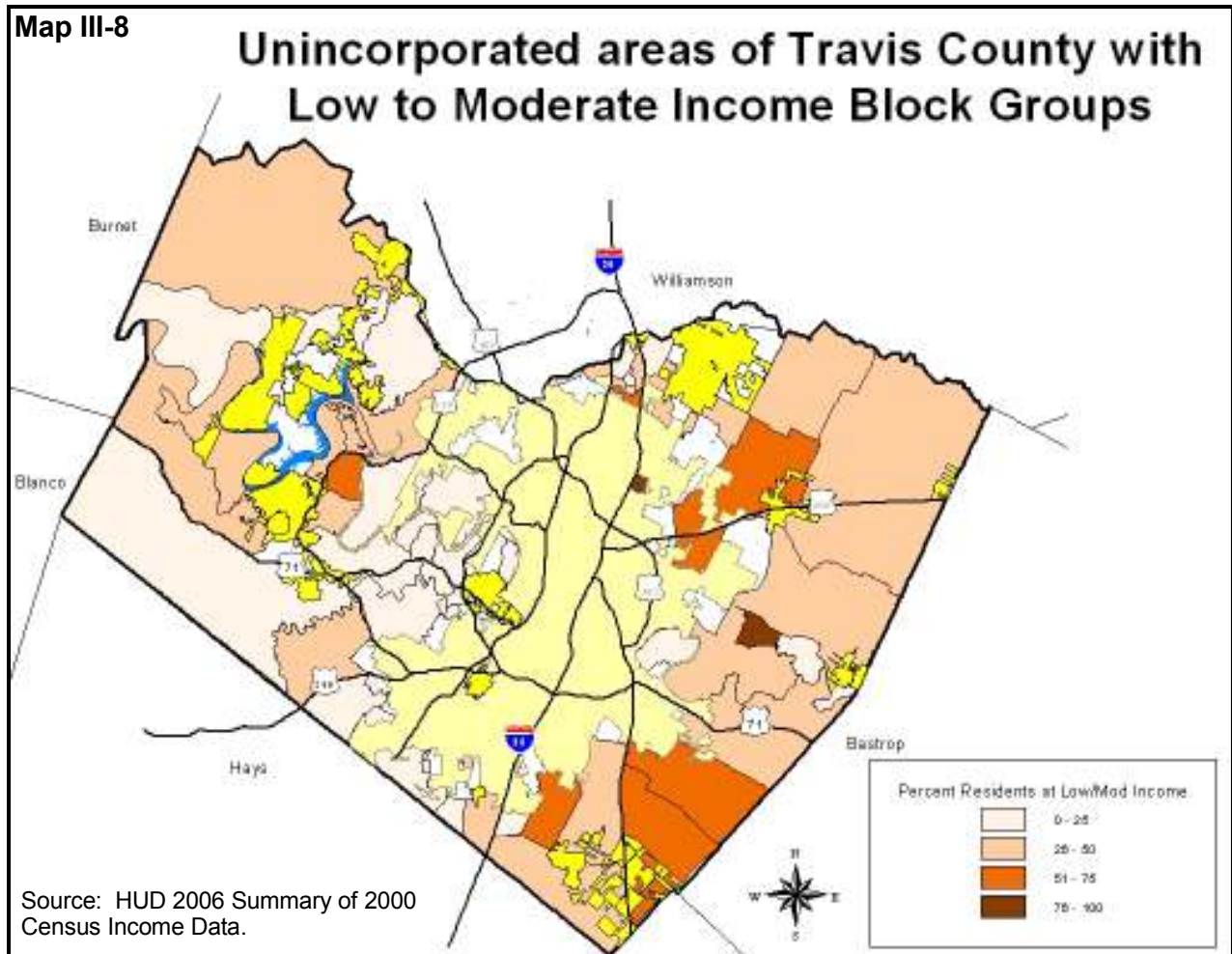
For additional information regarding the low to moderate income and minority concentration in the county, please refer to the maps included at the end of this section: 1) Map of the unincorporated areas of Travis County with low to moderate income block groups, 2) Number of African American Residents by Census Block Group, 3) Number of Asian Residents by Census Block Group, 4) Number of Hispanic Residents by Census Block Group and 5) Number of Residents Identified as "Other Race" by Census Block Group

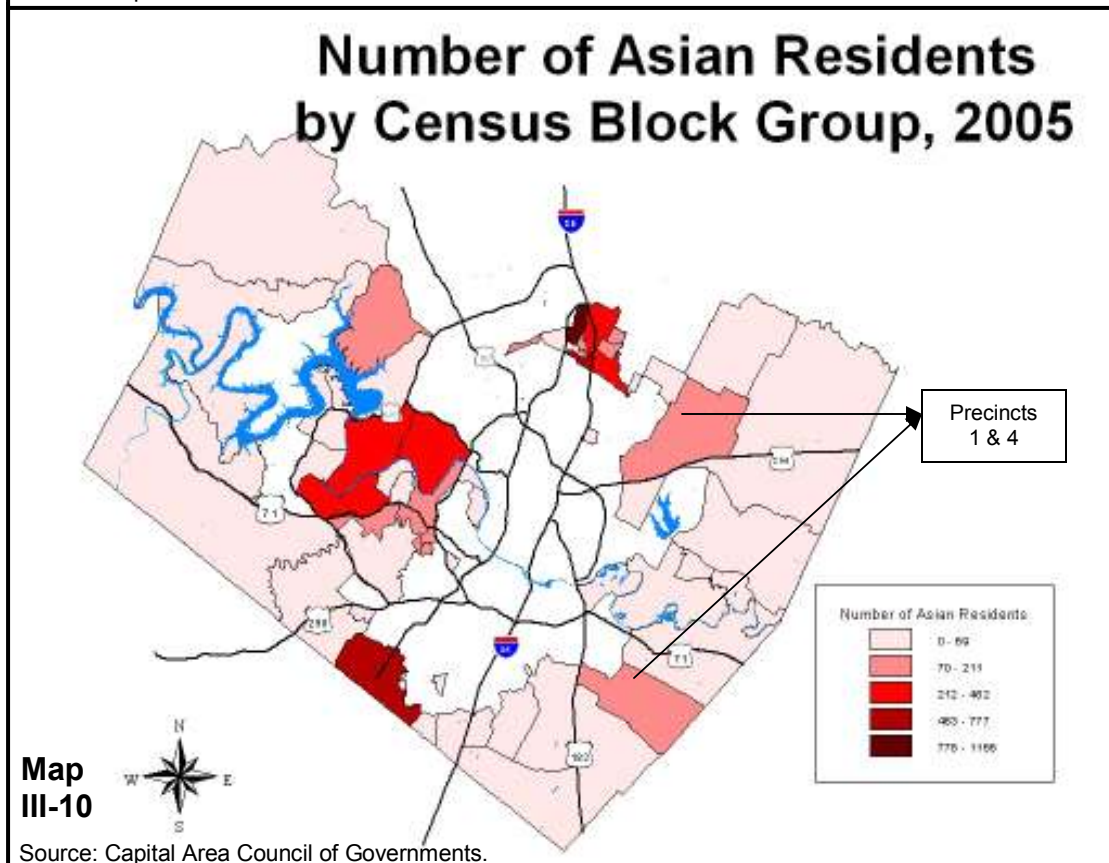
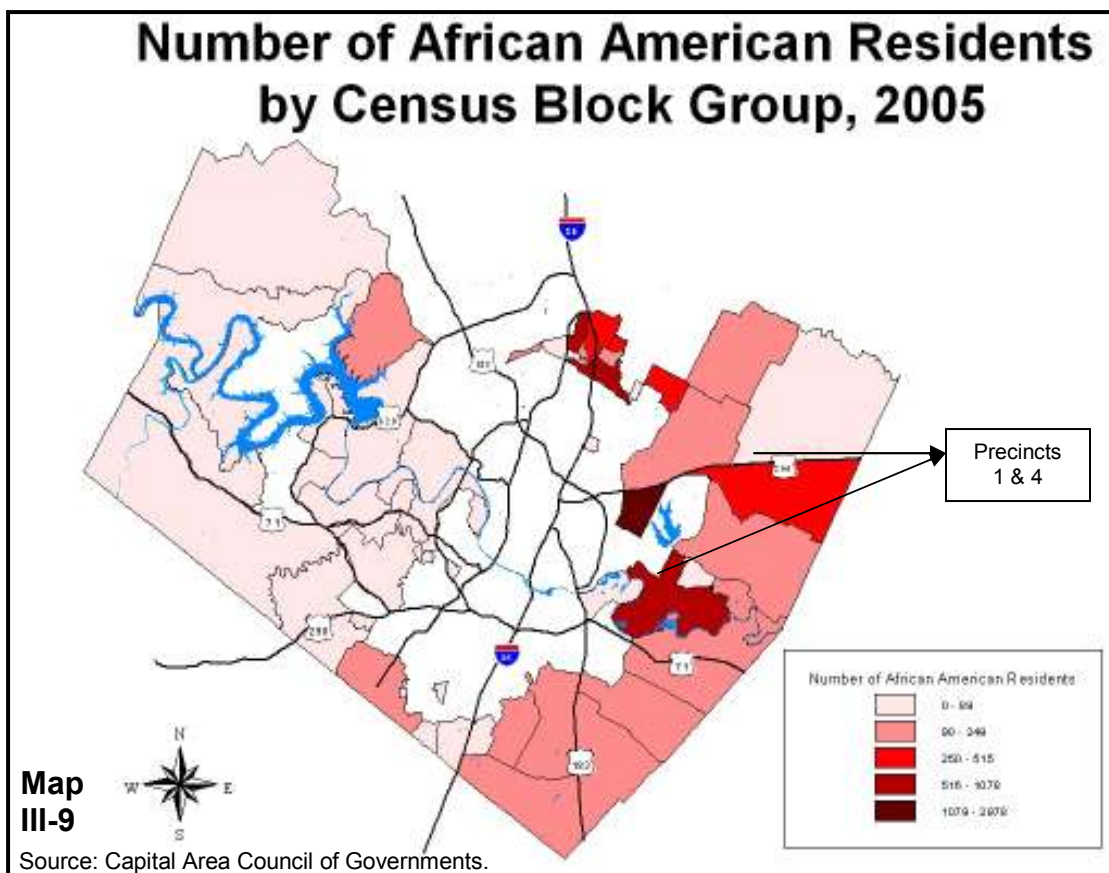
The homebuyer assistance project (Project 1), will help households purchase homes located in the unincorporated areas of the county while the homeowner rehabilitation program (Project 2) will support eligible housing units located in the unincorporated areas. The road improvements project (Project 3) will occur on Lava Lane located in Precinct 3, and Youth services (Project 5) will be provided to youth residing in the unincorporated areas of precincts 1 and 4. The following figure summarizes the locations for the PY09 projects.

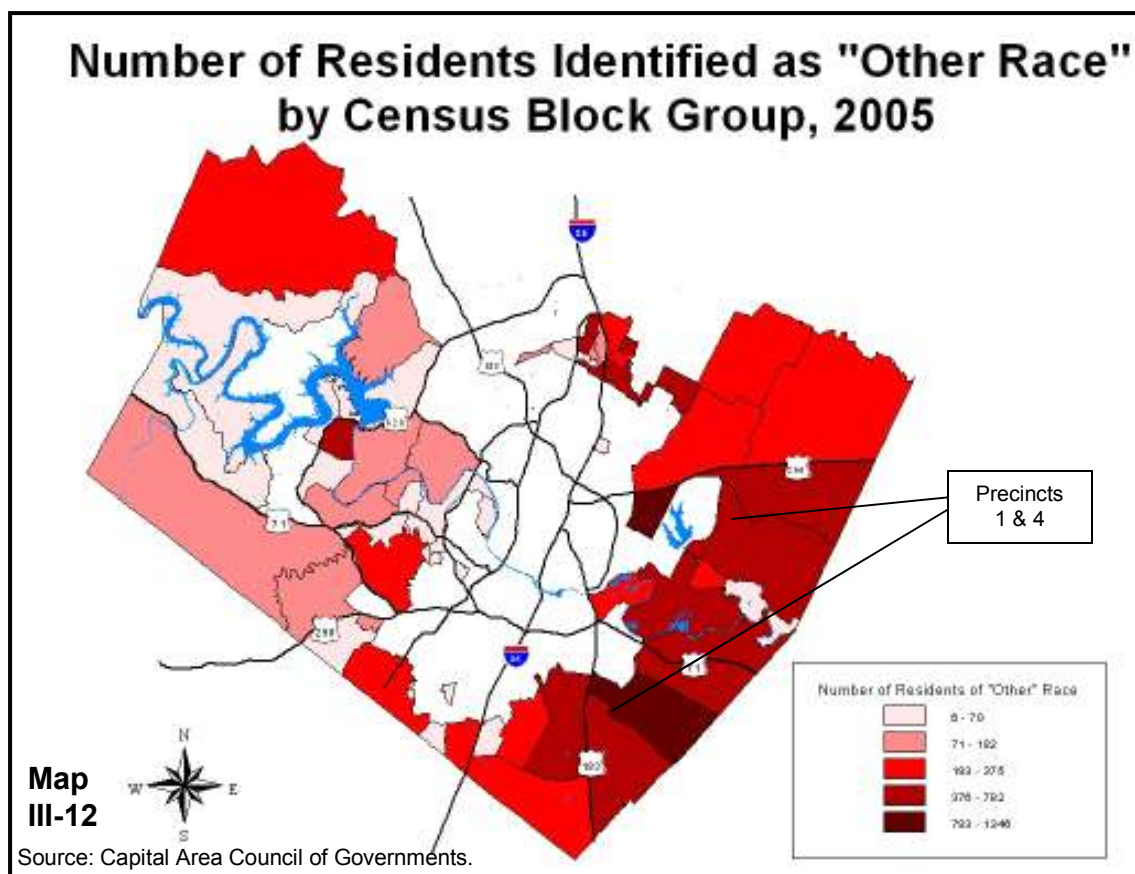
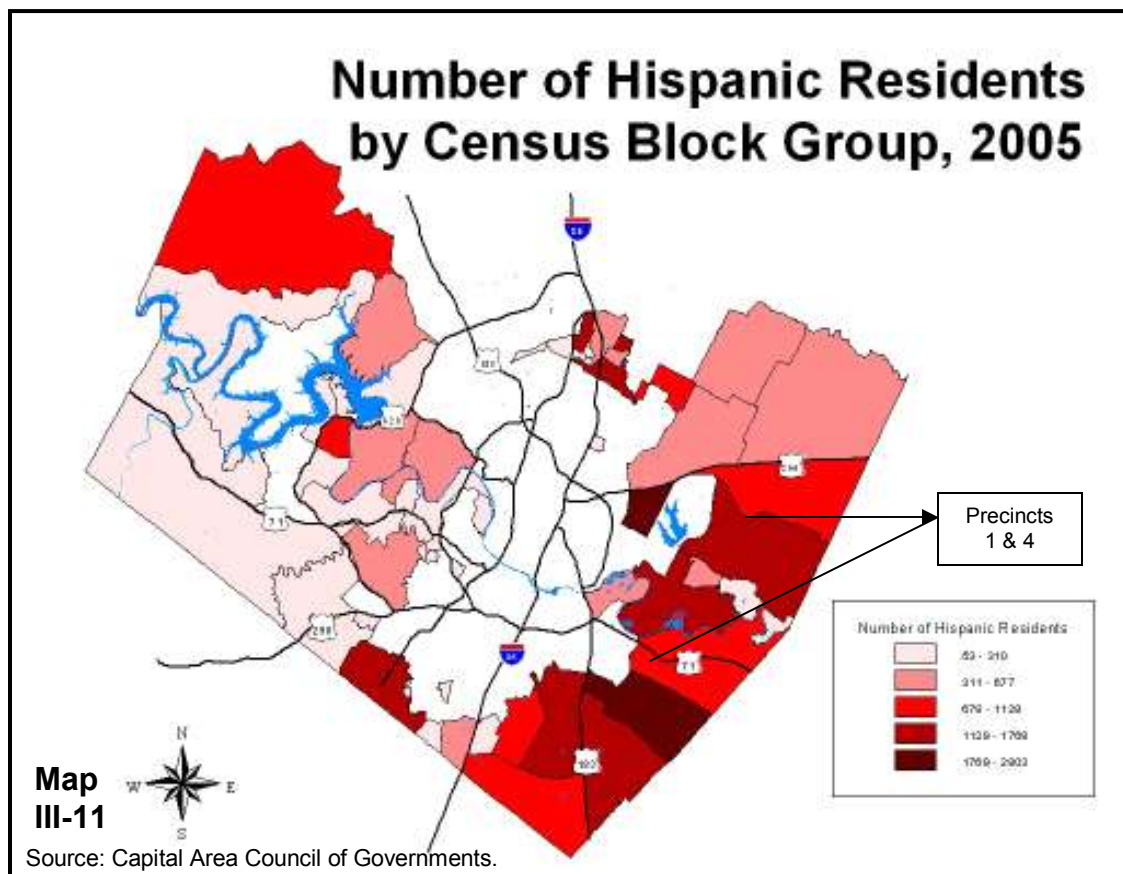
The following figure summarizes the locations for all the PY09 projects.

**Figure 3: Geographic Distribution of Grant Activity
for the Program Year 2009**

PY09 Projects	Location in Travis County
Project 1: Homebuyer Assistance	Households residing in the unincorporated areas of the county
Project 2: Owner Occupied Home Repair	Households residing in the unincorporated areas of the County
Project 3: Streets Improvements	Lava Lane, Precinct 4
Project 4: Public Services, Other	Households residing in the unincorporated areas of Precincts 1 & 4
Project 6: Youth Services	Youth residing in the unincorporated areas of Precincts 1 & 4
Project 7: Administration	Not Applicable







Public Participation Process

SUMMARY OF PARTICIPATION PROCESS

During the months of February and March 2009, the public had an opportunity to identify the needs of the unincorporated areas by 1) attending one of five public hearings, 2) turning in a Citizen Participation Form or 3) turning in a project proposal.

Public Hearings and Participation Forms

The purpose of the hearings and participation forms was to obtain the public's input on the community development, housing, and public service needs, as well as potential project ideas to address those needs. The first hearing, held at the Commissioner Courtroom, followed a traditional hearing format, while those held in each of the precincts had an information session followed by facilitated discussion.

The public that could not participate in public hearings had the choice of providing their input by filling out a Citizen Participation Form or a Project Proposal Form. These forms were provided to interested parties upon request and were available in both English and Spanish on the Travis County CDBG website.

Technical Assistance to Neighborhoods

Organized residents who identified CDBG eligible projects received technical assistance from CDBG staff in the form of site visits, guidance on project proposals and guidance on understanding CDBG eligible activities and eligible beneficiaries. CDBG staff provided technical assistance by doing site visits or holding office visits to four neighborhoods; Deer Creek Ranch, Lago Ranchos, Walnut Place and Lake Oak Estates, and providing preliminary assessments of the eligibility of the proposed projects. This marked the first year CDBG staff met with neighborhoods for site/office visits.

Advertising

The opportunity to participate was advertised on the website, the seven community centers and the television channel of Travis County. Advertisements also appeared on newspapers of general circulation including the Manor Messenger, Pflugerville Pflag, Hill Country News, Lake Travis View, North Lake Travis Log, West Lake Picayune, Oak Hill Gazette, The Austin Chronicle and the Spanish language newspapers *Ahora Si* and *El Mundo*. In addition, notifications by mail and e-mail were sent to service providers, to citizens who had previously attended public hearings, to the community liaison departments of schools districts and to neighborhood associations. The announcements were available in English and Spanish.

Efforts to broaden Public Participation

The following efforts were made to broaden public participation:

- Public notices presented the option of requesting an American Sign Language or Spanish interpreter.
- The CDBG website stayed current with documents and announcements of the different participation opportunities.
- The public that could not attend the public hearings had the option to provide their input by filling out a Citizen Participation Form or Project Proposal Form.
- To increase the access to information of Spanish-speakers, all the participation forms were available in Spanish, and selected sections of the website were translated into Spanish.
- Notices of opportunities to participate were sent for the first time to all neighborhood associations in the unincorporated areas and to school district community liaison departments.

Summary of Public Participation

- A total of 19 people attended the five public hearings: 16 of which attended the precinct public hearings and three of which testified at the Commissioners Court
- 5 Citizen Participation Forms were submitted
- 2 Project Proposals were submitted by the neighborhoods of Lake Oak Estates and Lago Ranchos
- Technical assistance was provided by CDBG staff in the forms of site visits or office visits and steps to follow to the neighborhoods Walnut Place, Lago Ranchos, Deer Creek Ranch and Lake Oak Estates
- 2 project proposals were submitted by the agencies Southwest Key Programs and Child Inc
- 4 proposals were submitted by Travis County Departments: 2 from the Family and Support Service (FSS) division of the Health and Human Service and Veteran Service Department (HHS&VS), one from the Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR) and one from the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation (TCHFC).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Every year during the development of the Annual Action Plan, a 30-day public comment period is held to receive comments on the proposed uses of CDBG funds. The comment period includes two public hearings held at the Travis County Commissioners Court. For the development of the PY09 Action Plan, the 30-day public comment period commenced on June 24, 2009 and ended on July 23, 2009 and the two public hearings occurred on June 30, 2009, and July 14, 2009.

The public comment period was advertized on the County's website and on newspapers of general circulation. In addition, notifications by mail and e-mail were sent to service providers, to citizens who had previously attended public hearings, to the community liaison departments of schools districts and to neighborhood associations. The announcements were available in English and Spanish.

Summary of Public Comments Received for Draft of PY09 Action Plan

- A total of four public comments were received. Three people testified at the June 30, 2009 public hearing and one person testified at the July 14, 2009 hearing.
- In summary, those that testified:
 - Requested caution be used when using CDBG administrative funds for travel expenditures.
 - Requested clarification to understand the advertising expenditures better and what they entail.
 - Expressed support for the CDBG social work program.
 - Voiced appreciation for the Court's decision to increase the maximum level of assistance in the CDBG home rehabilitation program.
- All of the comments received were responded to directly in the public hearings. All comments, applicable to the plan were accepted as they aligned with the priorities and investments characterized in the PY09 action plan. Transcriptions of the testimonies are found on Appendix B, Attachment E of this document.
- No written comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

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Project Selection Process

Travis County CDBG staff considered and weighed all potential projects identified by the public. First, the CDBG Office staff assessed whether potential projects met one of HUD's national objectives, were eligible CDBG activities, and were feasible to complete in a timely manner.

Second, CDBG staff further evaluated the projects according to the following criteria:

- **Addresses a high priority goal of the Strategic Plan:** Projects addressing one of the seven high priority categories identified in the consolidated plan were given a priority. Refer to Appendix D for a list of high, medium and low priorities.
- **Feasibility of project:** Projects that have the ability to be implemented and completed within 18 months received a more favorable review. Phased projects for which 12 - 18 months of work would leave an incomplete project with little to no impact were considered with less priority.
- **Impacts a significant number of households:** Project scope and the number of persons benefiting were considered to determine the level of project impact.
- **Benefit to low/moderate-income persons:** Projects that benefit low- and moderate income households received a more favorable review.
- **Leverages/matches with funding from another source:** Projects that utilize other funds (federal, state, local, private) and public/private joint efforts received more favorable review.

Staff also reviewed submitted projects in context with the economic downturn and weakened housing market. Consideration of medium priorities such as homebuyer assistance was made if data or trends suggested it was prudent.

Managing the Process and Institutional Structure

Effective implementation of the PY09 Action Plan will involve a variety of key stakeholders. Coordination and collaboration within the Travis County departments and between agencies will be instrumental in meeting community needs effectively. The departments and agencies anticipated to be involved in the implementation of projects are described below.

Internal Travis County Departments

As done during the implementation of CDBG projects in the past, the CDBG office will continue collaborating with several Travis County departments to ensure efficient and effective project planning, management, and implementation. The departments that are anticipated to play key roles in the execution of the projects include the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department (HHS/VS), the Commissioners Court, the Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR), the County Attorney's Office, the County Auditor's Office and the Purchasing Office.

Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department

The HHS/VS department is the lead county agency responsible for the administration of the County's CDBG funding. This department has the primary responsibility of assessing community needs, developing the Consolidated Plan and yearly Action Plans, managing project activities in conjunction with other county departments and community partners, administering the finances, and monitoring and reporting. The CDBG office is located in the Executive Manager's Office within HHS/VS. HHS/VS reports to the Travis County Commissioners Court for oversight authority.

The CDBG office works with the Research and Planning Division (R&P) within HHS/VS in the areas of community planning, data collection, and resource development. The CDBG office will continue to keep R&P informed about HUD funding streams and continue to work collaboratively identifying and sharing relevant data to ensure a consistent message on emerging issues such as changing housing needs and foreclosure.

Additionally, the Family Support Services (FSS) Division of HHS/VS is the project manager for a CDBG public service project. FSS also manages the seven Travis County Community Centers which provide a key access point for the public to access CDBG information. The CDBG office thus works closely with the Division to ensure the public's access to CDBG documents and encourage outreach and citizen engagement through the Centers.

Travis County Commissioners Court

The Commissioners Court is made of four elected commissioners, one to represent each county precinct, and the County Judge who serves as the presiding officer. As a group, the Commissioners and County Judge are the chief policy-making and governing body of the county government. The Commissioner's Court makes all final decisions about CDBG fund allocations.

Transportation and Natural Resources Department

The Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR) and the CDBG office work closely to coordinate environmental review functions, project planning, project implementation and GIS mapping. TNR and CDBG employees have been trained in environmental regulations. This cross training of both departments allows for quality review and peer consultation.

In addition, as part of the project funded with PY07 & PY08 fund, the CDBG office is working closely with a CDBG-funded Senior Engineer the TNR office has hired to finalize a preliminary assessment of areas that need water/wastewater improvements. The CDBG office and the Senior Engineer will coordinate the preparation of project scopes, eligibility, cost estimates, and project design. The Senior Engineer also plays an active role in the implementation of CDBG projects that are managed by TNR such as the street improvement projects of Apache Shores and Lava Lane.

County Attorney's Office

The County Attorney's Office creates and reviews legal agreements as well as provides legal advice and consultation. They have created templates to assist with CDBG procurement procedures, related consultant services, construction documents, and templates for sub-recipient agreements. This type of collaboration is expected to continue during the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan.

Purchasing Office

The Purchasing Office manages the CDBG procurement processes for commodities, professional services and construction. The office received a position funded by the Travis County general fund in 2006 to support CDBG and programs of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) - two new streams of federal funding. This approach supports compliance with common federal standards and promotes efficiencies within the County. In addition, this position ensures compliance with required labor standards and submits related reports to the CDBG office. The collaboration between the two offices is also expected to continue during the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan.

Public Sector and Non-Profits

During the implementation of the PY09 Action Plan, the Travis County CDBG office anticipates coordinating with a variety of local non-profits and governmental entities activities related to grant management and community planning. The following list provides some examples of the type of engagements the CDBG office anticipates to build:

- ♦ Partnerships with local Community Housing and Development Organizations (CHDOs), non-profits, and other community development and housing providers to explore options for community development and public service projects and leverage other federal, state, local and private funding.
- ♦ Coordination of planning efforts with the Travis County Housing Authority and Travis County Housing Finance Corporation for affordable housing programs in the unincorporated areas of the county;
- ♦ Engagement of other municipalities in Travis County for future collaboration in the areas of community development and housing activities.
- ♦ Coordination of planning efforts with different entities in the Austin metropolitan region such as of the City of Austin and other cities in the county, for areas such as combining future efforts in the development of documents such as comprehensive Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and a comprehensive Housing Market Study for the county/region.

In addition, the CDBG office will continue the following engagements:

- ♦ Consultation with other entitlement counties and cities to exchange models for CDBG grant management and project implementation;
- ♦ Information exchange and coordination with other implementing agencies on jointly funded projects;
- ♦ Coordination of planning efforts for affordable housing and ending homelessness initiatives with local stakeholders including coalitions of non-for-profits, the City of Austin, and regional organizations.

Monitoring

As the lead agency for development and implementation of the Consolidated Plan, the Travis County HHS/VS department implements standard policies and procedures for monitoring the implementation of CDBG activities. These monitoring activities ensure compliance with program regulations and compliance with financial requirements. Federal guidelines that must be followed include: OMB A-110, OMB A-122, 24 CFR Part 570.603 (CDBG Labor Standards), 570.901-906 (CDBG), the Davis Bacon Act and Contract Work Hours and the Safety Standards Act (CDBG).

HHS/VS provides contract administration for community development activities in conjunction with the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, including but not limited to contract negotiations, compliance monitoring, and payment and contract closeout.

Sub-Recipients

Sub-recipient agreements will be used to conduct housing, community development and public service activities. The sub-recipient agreement will be the foundation for programmatic monitoring. Sub-recipients will be monitored for programmatic compliance on-site in the following manner:

1. All invoices and reports will be routed via HHS/VS CDBG staff prior to final approval by financial services and the Auditor's Office.
2. All new sub-recipients will be monitored quarterly until no findings occur.
3. After two consecutive monitoring reports with no findings, semi-annual visits will occur.
4. Monitoring visits may occur on an annual basis if a sub-recipient has a long-standing record (three or more years) with no substantial findings.

Financial monitoring will be completed as necessary and as directed by the sub-recipient fiscal performance and the external monitoring needs of the Travis County Auditor's office. Programmatic and fiscal monitoring may not occur concurrently.

Contractors

Contractors may be used to provide some housing, community development and public services. Contractors submit periodic reimbursement requests that document and verify expenditures. The contract agreement will be used as the primary basis for monitoring. The following steps are an integral part of the monitoring process for each contract:

1. On-site reviews at an established periodic interval (prior to project commencement) will occur to ensure compliance with terms of the contract, HUD guidelines, state/local building and construction standards, and review of engineering plans and specifications.
2. If a contractor is found to be out of compliance, a notice is sent stating their contractual obligation and required action. Failure to comply may result in loss of current and/or future contracts as well as a hold on any payments.
3. All invoices and reports will be routed via HHS/VS CDBG staff prior to final approval by financial services and the Auditor's Office.

Internal Travis County Departments

Internal Travis County projects will be monitored through Travis County HHS/VS CDBG staff. Monitoring activities will include documentation and tracking mechanisms such as sign off prior to invoices being paid, regular meetings with project management staff, and frequent checking of eligibility files, if applicable.

Project Files

Travis County HHS/VS staff will maintain files to document each project and meet its respective compliance with HUD and related regulations.



Travis County

Section II: Housing and Services Homeless

Program Year 2009:
(October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010)
Annual Action Plan



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

CDBG Housing Investments

The Travis County CDBG program has supported projects that seek to preserve and expand the supply of decent affordable housing units. For the combined program years 2006 - 2008, CDBG is supporting the construction of affordable single family homes by providing funds for the land acquisition and infrastructure that will be used to build 41 homes for low- to-moderate income families. Additionally, PY08 and PY09 funds target home rehabilitation. These services are building upon and expand existing Travis County efforts in home repair and weatherization. Moreover, PY09 funds will target homebuyer assistance. Figure 8 summarizes the overall CDBG housing investments.

Figure 8: Overview of Travis County CDBG Investment in Housing

Housing Activities	CDBG Housing Investments	Impact
PY06: Land acquisition for the production of new owner housing units	\$250,000	41 Households
PY07: Land acquisition for the production of new owner housing units	\$195,518	
PY08: Infrastructure for the production of new owner housing units	\$500,000	
PY08: Home rehabilitation	\$106,136	20 households
PY09: Home rehabilitation	\$130,000	5 households
PY09: Homebuyer assistance	\$528,000	35 households
Total CDBG Housing Investments	\$1,709,654	101 households

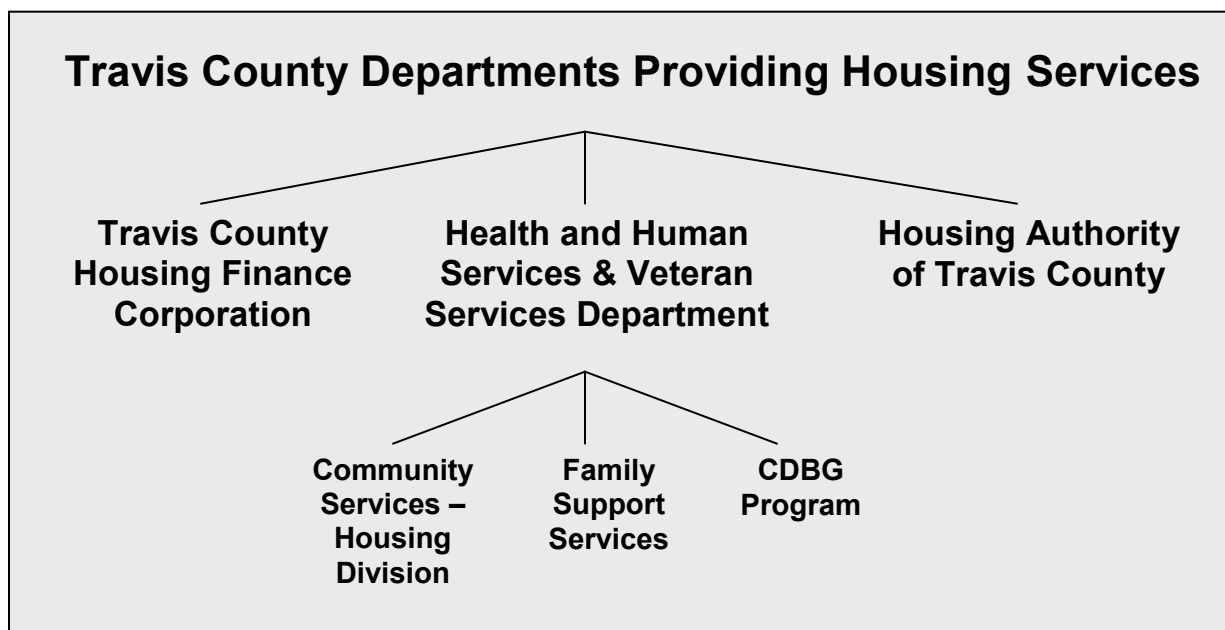
The following figure presents the Housing Priority Needs Summary Table prescribed by HUD.

Figure 9: Housing Priority Needs and Goals

Housing Priority Needs and Accomplishments Summary									
Priority Housing Needs (Households)		Priority Need Level (High, Medium, Low)		5-Year Goals	Yearly Estimates				
					PY06	PY07	PY08	PY09	PY10
Renter	Small Related	0-30%	High	2	0	0	0	0	
		31-50%	High	1	0	0	0	0	
		51-80%	High	2	0	0	0	0	
	Large Related	0-30%	Medium	0	0	0	0	0	
		31-50%	High	1	0	0	0	0	
		51-80%	High	1	0	0	0	0	
	Elderly	0-30%	High	1	0	0	0	0	
		31-50%	High	0	0	0	0	0	
		51-80%	Medium	0	0	0	0	0	
	All Other	0-30%	High	1	0	0	0	0	
		31-50%	High	1	0	0	0	0	
		51-80%	High	2	0	0	0	0	
Owner		0-30%	High	20	0	0	0	0	
		31-50%	High	15	10	17	14	5	
		51-80%	High	31	0	0	0	35	
Total Goals				78	0	0	0	40	
Total Renter Goals				12	0	0	0	0	
Total Owner Goals				66	10	17	14	40	

Overview of Housing Services supported by Travis County

In addition to CDBG, Travis County addresses the housing needs of its residents through diverse strategies that include the support of homeless and emergency shelters; transitional, public, assisted, and rental housing; first-time homebuyer programs and owner-occupied assistance programs. These services are either directly delivered by county departments, affiliate entities or by contracted not-for-profit agencies. The following chart is a visual representation of the different departments/affiliate entities of the County working on a variety of housing services.



Travis County HHS/VS Housing Services

The Travis County Housing Services performs weatherization and home repairs on houses occupied by county residents to improve energy efficiency, the physical living conditions, and safety in these homes. Funding for services comes from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the City of Austin and the Travis County General Fund. Currently, 130 households are on the waiting list for these needed services. This division is expecting additional funding for weatherization and home repair services through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Travis County HHS/VS Family Support Services Division

The Family Support Services (FSS) Division provides rent and mortgage assistance for 30 day housing stabilization as well as utility assistance. Funding for services comes from the Travis County General Fund, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program and a variety of local electric and gas utility providers.

Other Travis County HHS/VS Divisions

Other HHS/VS Divisions provide emergency rent or utility assistance on a smaller scale than FSS. These dollars are usually a part of a comprehensive case management program with strategic use of funds for families in need.

Travis County Housing Finance Corporation

Through the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation (TCHFC), Travis County is engaged in a number of efforts to foster and maintain affordable housing. The Corporation provides single-family home ownership (including down-payment assistance) opportunities to first-time homebuyers who meet certain income requirements. As mentioned earlier on this document, TCHFC will be using CDBG PY09 funds to increase their homebuyer assistance programs in the unincorporated areas of the County. In addition, they have applied for and received approximately \$1.3 million dollars in Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds from the State to further increase their homebuyer assistance program. The Corporation also issues tax-exempt bonds to finance the construction or acquisition of multi-family apartments that must provide rental units to certain low and moderate-income families.

This year the TCHFC will work with FSS to implement a new Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program funded through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to provide rental assistance and case management for up to 24 months for certain low income households.

The Housing Authority of Travis County

The Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) manages three public housing sites, a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, three Shelter Plus Care Projects and a Lease-Purchase program.

The public housing sites have a total of 105 housing units while the Shelter Plus Care projects provides rental assistance for homeless people with chronic disabilities in the Austin-Travis County area. The program utilizes integrated rental housing and flexible

and intensive support services to promote community tenure and independence. These public housing and Shelter Plus sites are all located in the incorporated areas of the county.

In the unincorporated areas, HATC administers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, assisting very low income, disabled and elderly families or individuals. HATC also operates a Lease-Purchase program, to provide homeownership opportunities for prospective homebuyers who can afford monthly mortgage payments, but do not have funds for a down payment and/or closing costs or the credit standing to qualify for a loan.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Many factors impact affordability of the housing stock in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The high cost of living and the demand for land and housing create a lack of affordable housing for very low- and low-income households. Outlined below are the barriers to affordable housing identified through needs assessment, housing market analysis, provider forum and surveys, consultations and public hearings that were part of the 2006-2010 consolidated planning process.

Lack of Funding for Affordable Housing

Travis County's Housing Finance Corporation currently has funding and programs in place to increase affordable home ownership through first-time homebuyers down payment assistance and bond programs. While this funding creates opportunities to increase housing affordability, poor credit scores and other factors make it difficult for low to moderate-income families to qualify for mortgage loans. The majority of Travis County residents with a housing cost burden are renters. Not enough funding exists to subsidize renters to make rents more affordable. The newly funded tenant based rental assistance collaborative between TCHFC and FSS, provides additional dollars to make rental housing more affordable while moving families towards self-sufficiency.

High Cost of Housing, Land and Infrastructure

The high cost of housing, land and infrastructure makes homeownership and rents unaffordable to many of Travis County's low-income families. For residents with low- to moderate-income, the availability of homes at affordable prices is dwindling. The

execution of the CDBG land acquisition and infrastructure project will assist in addressing this barrier.

Building Codes, Zoning Provisions, Growth Restrictions and Fees

At this time, Travis County does not have any building codes, zoning provisions or growth restrictions in the unincorporated areas. This is largely a function of state statutes that place significant limits on the authority of counties to regulate or restrict development. While less restrictions, codes and provisions initially increase affordable development, it also increases the likelihood for substandard housing and other unsuitable living conditions throughout the unincorporated areas. The Travis County Commissioners Court is currently exploring ways the county can expand its land use authority in the unincorporated areas. Additionally, CDBG is investing dollars to rehabilitate existing homes and move them towards Housing Quality Standards with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of the housing stock.

Environmental Regulations

Several state and federal regulations exist to protect the environment including the Endangered Species Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and the Wetland regulations. Texas rules include regulations for the installation of septic systems and for development over the Edwards Aquifer. These regulations may increase costs for development, affecting affordability. When possible, land identified for purchase will target areas where environmental costs will not substantially increase the cost of housing.

Addressing Barriers to Affordable Housing

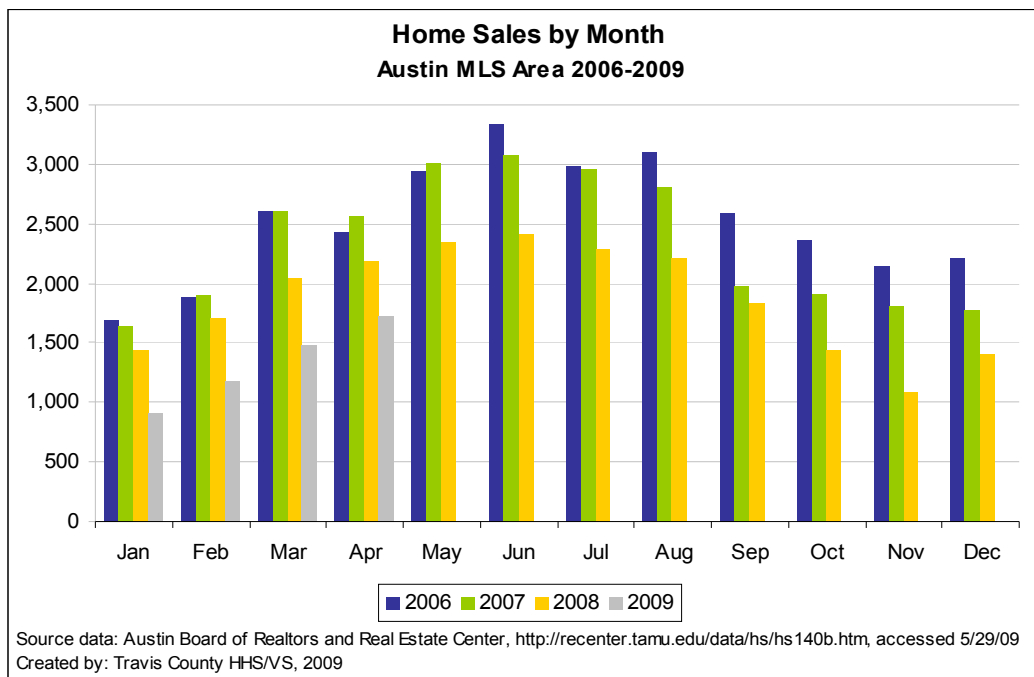
Refer to previous section to see Travis County's investments in promoting affordable housing.

Foreclosures

An emerging additional housing barrier has been the inability of homeowners to keep their homes due to mortgage foreclosures. Even though foreclosures in Travis County have not been as high as other parts of the country – they have been on the rise especially in certain areas of the County. The HHS/VS department is currently working to map and quantify the foreclosures to get a sense of the extent and nature of the problem.

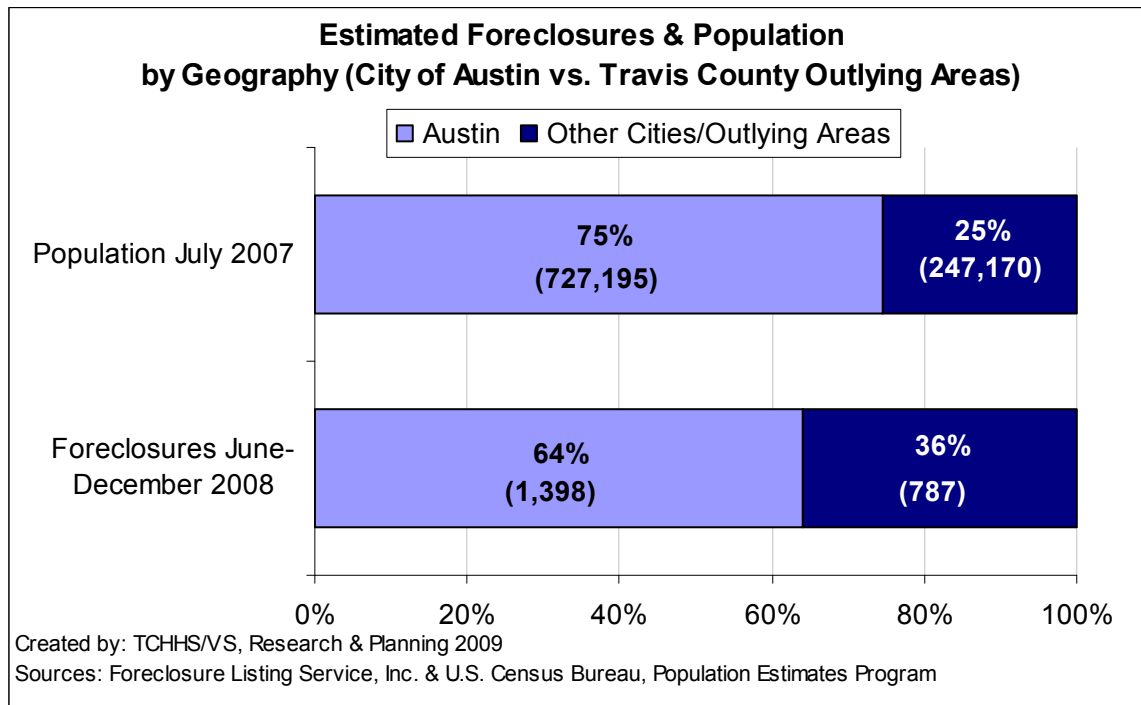
Preliminary research in this area indicates the following:

- Travis County began to see a trend of declining home sales in September 2007 with a 23% decrease of unit sales from 2,586 units in September 2006 to 1,948 units in September 2007. As seen on the chart below, the declining trend continues as of April 2009.



- According to the Austin Board of Realtors and Real Estate Center, <http://recenter.tamu.edu/data/hs/hs140b.htm>, accessed 5/29/09), the months of home inventory nearly doubled from 3.8 months in April 2006 to 6.8 months in April 2009.
- Travis County Foreclosure rate rose 33 % from approximately 3,500 in 2007 to 5,000 in 2008. Source: Jamie Watson and Courtney Bissonnet Lucas, "Community Impact Report 2008," Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service, Research and Planning Division, 2009. From: Shonda Novak and M. B. Taboada, "Business is Slow, Even at the Foreclosure Auction," Austin American-Statesman, December 3, 2008, <http://www.statesman.com/business/content/business/stories/other/12/03/1203foreclose.html>

- Travis County had 692 foreclosure posting for the May 2009 Action, up 79 percent from May 2008, according to the Foreclosure Listing Service, Inc. (Repeat posting accounted for 49 percent of filings in May up from 37 percent in April and 36 % in May 2008. Source: Shonda Novak, "Foreclosures surge, but many are repostings. Properties posted for auction expected to keep growing this year.," *Austin American-Statesman* April 22, 2009. <http://www.statesman.com/search/content/business/stories/other/04/22/0422foreclosures.html>



- A review of unduplicated foreclosure posting (about 2,185) for June-December 2008 appears to indicate that a greater share of foreclosure activity may be occurring in the outlying areas of Travis County (rather than in the urban core/City of Austin).

In an effort to assist and prevent families from experiencing foreclosures, the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation awarded \$50,000 to Frameworks, a non-profit organization, for foreclosure prevention counseling and case management services to assist a total of 112 families who reside within Travis County, but outside the City of Austin, over the next year.

In the coming months, the HHS/VS Department will continue to work on better understanding the extent of foreclosures in Travis County, and determine what, if any, continued investments are needed to strengthen the housing market.

Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

HUD has a commitment to eliminate racial and ethnic segregation, physical and other barriers to persons with disabilities, and other discriminatory practices in the provision of housing. HUD extends the responsibility of affirmatively furthering fair housing to local jurisdictions through a variety of regulations and program requirements.

As an entitlement county receiving CDBG funds from HUD, Travis County must fulfill its fair housing responsibilities by developing an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice and by taking actions to overcome the identified impediments. Given the County's limited history administering the grant (since October 2006), the complexities of conducting a thorough analysis, and the limited staff resources, the CDBG office of Travis County developed a preliminary analysis to lay the ground for a more comprehensive analysis to be conducted by a consultant with PY08 funds. The scope of work and request for proposals for the analysis of impediments is currently being drafted.

The preliminary analysis highlights the impediments identified by the City of Austin in the analysis they published in February, 2005. Since much of the analysis conducted by the city, used county data, the impediments can be expected to hold in other areas of the county including non-incorporated areas. The identified impediments are the following:

- Lack of accessible housing to meet the need of the disabled community throughout the county
- Lack of affordable housing
- Discrimination of minorities in housing rental and sales market
- Misconception by property managers concerning family occupancy standards
- Predatory lending practices
- Disparity in lending practices
- Failure of mortgage lenders to offer products and services to very low-income and minority census tracts people
- Insufficient financial literacy education
- Insufficient income to afford housing

The analysis of impediments that will be conducted with PY08 funds will reveal to what extent the impediments mentioned are applicable to the county as a whole as well as any other impediments that might be unique to the unincorporated areas. The analysis will also design a specific fair housing action plan to address those impediments.

Travis County currently addresses fair housing issues in the following manner:

- The CDBG webpage on the Travis County website now has a page focused solely on fair housing and referrals to report fair housing violations.
www.co.travis.tx.us/health_human_services/CDBG/FairHousing/fair_housing.asp
- Part of the CDBG investments are aimed to increase affordable owner housing.
- CDBG and Travis County General Fund investments are made in basic needs and case management which can address issues such as financial literacy, underemployment, and access to federal benefits. All of these areas can help residents with opportunities to increase their income and their access to housing.
- Funding of social services from the Austin Tenant's Council (ATC) and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. ATC provides information about housing rights and advocacy to protect the housing rights of low income and minority residents of Travis County. Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. provides legal assistance to obtain or preserve safe, decent, and affordable housing for clients facing eviction and/or homelessness.
- The Family Support Services Division, which operates within HHS/VS, addresses issues of possible fair housing discrimination by referring clients to these organizations.

In spite of these efforts, the County needs to develop a comprehensive action plan to identify and address all of the impediments. The Analysis of Impediments study will allow the County to target efforts to reduce discrimination and barriers to affordable housing through advocacy, policy change and strategic investments.

Services for the Homeless

Planning Efforts to End Homelessness (ECHO)

Travis County is a member of the Ending Chronic Homelessness (ECHO) Coalition whose mission is to identify specific strategies and oversee ongoing planning and implementation of a plan to end chronic homelessness in Austin and Travis County. The coalition is comprised of four committees: Planning & Evaluation, Prevention, Exiting, and Event/Community Education. These committees in turn have subcommittees. Regular monthly meetings for each committee/subcommittee are held, and plenary meetings for all ECHO members are held quarterly.

Travis County CDBG staff joined ECHO's Planning and Evaluation Committee during PY07 and since then has participated in a number of subcommittees including the Count and Survey sub-committee in charge of the annual homeless count, the Continuum of

Care (CoC) Sub-committee and Independent Review Team that reviews and ranks CoC applications and provides feedback to contracting agencies. Refer to the next section for further details on CoC.

In addition to participating in ECHO's efforts, the expansion of the FSS Social Work project has provided CDBG staff an opportunity to learn about pockets of homelessness in the unincorporated areas of the county. CDBG staff has shared this knowledge with ECHO forwarding to them information on new areas for inclusion in the annual count that took place in January 29, 2009. CDBG staff will continue to participate in this coalition through committee work.

HUD Continuum of CARE (CoC) Funding

Continuum of Care is a funding mechanism by which HUD awards through a national competition grants for the Supportive Housing Program (SHP), Shelter Plus Care (S+C) and the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) Program to states, localities and non-profits organizations.

The SHP program provides funding for the development of transitional housing for homeless individuals with disabilities. The S+C program provides rental assistance for homeless people with chronic disabilities (usually severe mental illness, HIV/AIDS, and chronic drug and/or alcohol dependency). All grantees are required to match their federal funding for rental assistance with equal funding for supportive services. The SRO program provides project-based rent subsidies for occupants of single-room occupancy facilities that have undergone moderate rehabilitation.

The Austin/Travis County received approximately \$5 million in HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding for the 2008/2009. Part of the funding will focus on projects that qualify as part of the SHP program while the other part will target projects under the S+C programs. Additionally, the CoC received a Samaritan bonus to increase funds for permanent supportive housing.

Homeless Services

During the 2009 program year, Travis County will not target the use of CDBG funds toward homeless efforts. During calendar year 2009, Travis County is investing general fund dollars in contracts with social service providers targeting the homeless in conjunction with the Austin/Travis County ESG grant administration and the Austin/Travis County Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.

Homelessness Prevention

A variety of homeless prevention efforts are made through the Travis County General Fund and other grant sources. HHS/VS invests directly through its Family Support Services (FSS) division to address housing stability issues including rent, mortgage and utility assistance. Annually, FSS provides homeless prevention services funded through the General Fund and grant assistance dollars. For 2009, purchased service investments with non-profits will continue.

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which includes a \$1.5 billion for a Homelessness Prevention Fund. Funding for this program, called the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), is being distributed based nationally. In Austin, non-profits will receive 2.3 million dollars in HPRP funds through the State.

HOME/ American Dream Down Payment Initiative (ADDI)

Travis County does not receive HOME or ADDI funds at this time.

Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)

Travis County does not receive Emergency Shelter Grant funds at this time.

Travis County

Section III: Non- Housing Community Development and Other Actions

Program Year 2009:
October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010
Annual Action Plan



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

Non-Housing Community Development Investments

Non-Housing Community Development projects include infrastructure, public facilities and public service projects. Out of these three categories Travis County identified infrastructure and public services in their high priorities for the 2006-2010 period. Within the infrastructure category, water and wastewater projects and street improvement projects were prioritized. For public services, youth services and “Other Public Service Needs” were prioritized. Other public service needs encompasses most public services except youth services, senior services, employment training, child care services, transportation services, substance abuse services, health services and lead hazard screening.

During the past three years, CDBG dollars have supported the improvement of a water delivery system, the improvement of substandard roads, the planning of water and wastewater projects and expansion of public services. The figure below summarizes the CDBG community development investments planned with funds from PY06, PY07, PY08 & PY09.

**Figure 10: Overview of Travis County
CDBG Investment in Community Development**

Table 2B: Community Development Needs/Projects		
Community Development Needs/Projects	Priority Need Level	CDBG Investments
INFRASTRUCTURE		
Water Improvements PY06 Northridge Acres	High	\$ 200,000
Street Improvements PY 06 Apache Shores	High	\$ 305,000
Street Improvements PY 07 Apache Shores	High	\$ 500,000
Street Improvements PY 06 Lava Lane	High	\$83,659
Street Improvements PY 09 Lava Lane	High	\$ 60,000
	Total Infrastructure	\$1,148,659
PUBLIC SERVICE		
Other Public Service Needs PY 07	High	\$ 64,000
Other Public Service Needs PY 08	High	\$ 64,877
Other Public Service Needs PY 09	High	\$ 35,000
Youth Services PY 09		\$ 32,100
	Total Public Service	\$195,977
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Low	\$ 0
PUBLIC FACILITY	Medium and Low	\$ 0
PLANNING		
Water/Wastewater Improvement Planning PY 07	Not applicable	\$ 88,727
Water/Wastewater Improvement Planning PY 08	Not applicable	\$ 108,704
	Total Planning	\$ 197,431
TOTAL CDBG Dollars Invested in Community Development:		\$1,542,067

In addition to CDBG investments, the County's infrastructure department, Transportation and Natural Resources, conducts community development activities in the form of public parks, bridge and drainage projects, storm water management, road maintenance, onsite sewage facilities, transportation planning, and various other projects, approximately totaling \$ 70,639,854 in PY 2008.

Water and Wastewater Needs

The need for improvements related to water and wastewater systems have been brought up multiple times in the CDBG public hearings held during the last three years. As result of a lowering water table as well as the development occurring in the South and East areas of the County, families are experiencing a shortage of water in their wells. Some families have to truck in water, while others go without this needed resource. The public infrastructure needed to resolve neighborhoods' access to water is costly and requires strategic planning and the creation of partnerships.

CDBG is funding a water/wastewater study of those neighborhoods that have self-identified a need. The study will provide the County objective and organized data to determine next steps. The planning will also assist in the development of opportunities to leverage funds with public and private dollars to address identified needs. A preliminary study is anticipated in September 2009.

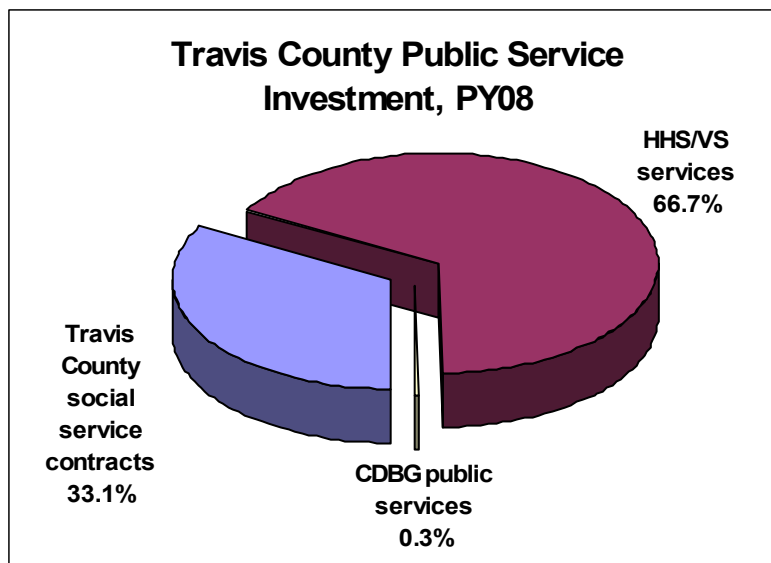
Anti-Poverty Strategy

Travis County's lead agency for administering CDBG funds is the Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department, whose mission is "to work in partnership with the community to promote full development of individual, family, neighborhood, and community potential." The vision of HHS/VS is "optimizing self-sufficiency for families and individuals in safe and healthy communities." Both the mission and vision of HHS/VS are essentially aimed at preventing and ameliorating conditions of poverty in Travis County.

Travis County operates a number of anti-poverty programs that assist individuals and families on multiple fronts in transitioning from crisis to self-sufficiency. The County carries out its anti-poverty programs both through the direct delivery of services managed by HHS/VS and by purchasing services from private and not-for-profit agencies in the community. In addition to the provision of direct services, Travis County continually assesses the poverty and basic needs of county residents, works with

stakeholders in facilitating anti-poverty efforts, and supports public policy initiatives that prevent and ameliorate conditions of poverty.

HHS/VS contracts annually with over 40 non-profits in the form of social service contracts. During the 2008 program year, approximately \$8,370,133 will be invested through social service contracts. In addition, during the 2008 program year HHS/VS will provide approximately 16,882,794 in direct public services. The following figure compares the percentages of Travis County public service investments in PY08 broken down by those contracted out, the CDBG investments and the direct investments delivered by HHS/VS.



CDBG is funding an expansion of a social service program in the unincorporated areas which served 71 clients during PY07. Through this program, many clients have manifested multiple needs related to housing, health, income and lack of basic services. Housing needs seems of particular importance with more than half of the clients served identifying the lack of affordable housing or the lack of income to maintain a home as a major concern. In addition, more than half of the clients served so far, identified a lack of basic services nearby as a major obstacle, more so recently with the rising fuel costs. Additionally, 23% of the households served have been involved with Adult Protective or Child Protective Services during service provision demonstrating the level of case management need and level of intensity of the cases. These themes remain consistent with the program throughout the implementation during PY08.

The needs of the residents in the unincorporated areas have not been studied and quantified as much as those that live within the city limits. The work of the social services program will continue to identify those needs and will serve as a starting point for a more thorough needs assessment to be conducted during the development of the next CDBG Consolidated Plan.

Non-Homeless Special Needs

HUD identifies non-homeless special needs populations as elderly, frail elderly, those with severe mental illness, the developmentally disabled, the physically disabled, persons with alcohol and other drug addictions, victims of domestic violence, and persons living with HIV/AIDS. Over the five-year strategic direction of the 2006-2010 Consolidated plan, no specific goals for CDBG are targeted to address non-homeless special needs.

Travis County's HHS/VS provides services to special needs populations through direct services as well as social service contracts and inter-local agreements with other governmental organizations. Travis County HHS/VS invests in different programs to address public health, substance abuse, indigent health, and mental health needs.

Services for Elderly & Frail Elderly

Travis County funds services through social service contract investments. Services provided include in-home care services, bill payer services, meals, and case management. In-home services include assistance with personal hygiene tasks as well as housekeeping, while bill payer services include assistance with finances and money management. Meals include hot meal delivery and 2nd meal assistance.

Services for Persons with Physical Disabilities or Developmental Delays

Travis County funds services for persons with physical disabilities and developmental delays through social service contract investments. Services center around employment and job-readiness, case management, early childhood intervention, basic needs assistance, and social/recreational opportunities.

Services for Victims of Domestic Violence

Travis County funds services for persons experiencing abuse, neglect, domestic violence, and sexual assault through social service contract investments. Services center around advocacy, crisis management, emergency shelter, transitional housing, and counseling.

Services for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

Travis County funds services for persons living with HIV/AIDS through social service contract investments. Services center around advocacy, crisis management, emergency shelter, transitional housing, counseling, case management, primary medical care retention, client advocacy, medication adherence assistance, food bank assistance, nutritional counseling, home health, prevention, and support groups. Additionally, Travis County provides other services through health and public health inter-local agreements.

Lead-Based Paint

The CDBG program is in the process of developing Lead-Based implementation procedures that will serve to guide the implementation of the owner occupied rehabilitation program funded with CDBG PY08 and PY09 funds. The guidelines will establish the procedures to comply with the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X) and subsequent changes in September, 1999. The procedures will include notification, identification, and treatment, if necessary.

HHS/VS Housing Services Division, which receives funds through State grant funds and the Travis County General Fund, provides limited lead-based paint remediation on houses built before 1978 where small holes in the wall or similar acts that could cause additional possible lead exposure are made.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Travis County does not receive HOPWA funds at this time.



Travis County

Appendix A: Income Eligibility Limits

Program Year 2009:
(October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010)
Annual Action Plan



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

2009 Income Eligibility Limits

Following HUD's definition, a very low, low and moderate-income household means a household having an income equal to or less than the Section 8 low income limit for a given household size. For example a family of four is considered a "Very low income" household if their income is less than or equal to \$ 22,000.

The following table summarizes the income limits effective as of March, 2009. The income limits are provided for reference purpose only as they are updated by HUD on an annual basis and only the most current limits are used when determining program eligibility.

ADJUSTED INCOME LIMITS (by Household size)			
	Very Low Income (30 % Limits)	Low Income (50 % Limits)	Moderate Income (80 % Limits)
1 Person	\$15,400	\$25,650	\$41,050
2 Persons	\$17,600	\$29,300	\$46,900
3 Persons	\$19,800	\$33,000	\$52,800
4 Persons	\$22,000	\$36,650	\$58,650
5 Persons	\$23,750	\$39,600	\$63,350
6 Persons	\$25,500	\$42,500	\$68,050
7 Persons	\$27,300	\$45,450	\$72,750
8 Persons	\$29,050	\$48,400	\$77,400

Effective as of March, 2009



Travis County

Appendix B: Public Participation

Program Year 2009:
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Annual Action Plan



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

Attachment A: Summary of Public Participation

- A total of 19 people attended the five public hearings: 16 of which attended the precinct public hearings and three of which testified at the Commissioners Court
- 5 Citizen Participation Forms were submitted
- 2 Project Proposals were submitted by the neighborhoods of Lake Oak Estates and Lago Ranchos
- Technical assistance was provided by CDBG staff in the forms of site visits or office visits and steps to follow to the neighborhoods Walnut Place, Lago Ranchos, Deer Creek Ranch and Lake Oak Estates
- 2 project proposals were submitted by the agencies Southwest Key Programs and Child Inc
- 4 proposals were submitted by Travis County Departments: 2 from the Family and Support Service (FSS) division of the Health and Human Service and Veteran Service Department (HHS&VS), one from the Transportation and Natural Resources Department (TNR) and one from the Travis County Housing Finance Corporation (TCHFC).

The following table summarizes the number of participants broken down by precinct.

Table 1: Spring 2009 Participation Summary by Precinct

Participants in Public Hearings	Precinct 1: TNR Office in John Morris Road 02/26/09	Precinct 2: Pflugerville Community Center 02/18/09	Precinct 3: Oak Hill Community Center 02/19/09	Precinct 4: Del Valle Community Center 02/26/09	Commissioners Court Granger Building 02/17/09
	5	1	2	8	3
Citizen Participation Forms Received	0	0	5	0	N/A
Project Proposals Received	-	-	2 Lago Ranchos & Lake Oak Estates	-	N/A

In this section we will summarize the results from the public hearings and citizen participation forms. The project proposals will be included in another section of the back-up.

The hearings held in each of the precincts consisted of an informational section and two interactive exercises. The informational section contained background information on CDBG eligible activities, citizen participation processes, and project selection criteria. During the first exercise, participants were asked to rank the CDBG priorities should the for its 2009 program year. During the second exercise, residents were asked to identify their community needs and potential project ideas to address those needs. Residents that filled out a Citizen Participation Form had access to the same information via the form and a power point presentation.

Ranking of CDBG Priorities

Staff provided a list of the CDBG priorities on large pieces of paper on the wall. Participants were asked to rank the priorities by assigning dots with numerical values next to the ones they consider most significant. They were specifically asked to 1) assign 5 points, to the priority that represents to them the most urgent need or most urgent area of investment, 2) assign three points, to a priority that represents to them an urgent need, but not necessarily the most urgent need, and 3) assign 1 point, to the priority that represents to them an important need, but not as urgent need. To provide additional emphasis, participants were allowed to assign more than one dot to a priority area. The results of the ranking for the 21 residents that participated through the precinct public hearings and citizen participation forms were as follows:

Table 2: Ranking of CDBG Priorities by the Public, Spring 2009*

High Priorities for the 2006-2010 Period	Dots Assigned			Total Points
	Most Urgent (5-point dots)	Urgent (3- point dots)	Important (1-point dots)	
Street/Road Improvements	9	4	3	65
Water/Sewer Improvements	3	8	5	44
Youth Services	4	5	4	39
Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	5	-	4	9
Infrastructure for New Housing Developments	1	-	-	5
Production of New Owner Housing Units through Land Acquisition	1	-	-	5
Other Public Service Needs*	-	-	-	-

*The number of dots calculated does not necessarily add up to 63 (21 residents *3 dots each) since some of the residents that turned in a citizen participation form only ranked one or two priorities using less than the three ranking dots.

When explaining to participants the priorities approved by court for the period 2006-2010, it was clarified that the category “Other Public Service Needs” excludes senior services, employment training, child care services, transportation services, substance abuse services, lead services, and lead hazard screening.

Table 3: Ranking of CDBG Priorities (Broken down by Precinct), Spring 2009

Needs Prioritized by the Public	
Precinct 1 (5 participants)	1. Water/Sewer Improvements
	2. Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	3. Other Public Services
Precinct 2 (1 participant)	1. Infrastructure for new Housing Development
	2. Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
Precinct 3 (7 participants)	1. Street/Road Improvements
	2. Water/Sewer Improvements
	3. Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
Precinct 4 (8 participants)	1. Youth Services
	2. Street/Road Improvements
	3. Water/Sewer Improvements

All participants were given time to identify their specific community needs and project ideas including specific locations, cross streets, and any mitigating factors. The specific needs/projects identified are as follows:

Table 4: Needs/Projects identified by the Public Spring 2009

Needs/Projects Identified	Precinct
Street/Road Improvements	
Street improvements to Caldwell Lane	2
Street improvements on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lake Oak Estates subdivision so that road can qualify for Travis County Maintenance. ▪ Deer Creek Ranch near RR12 & Hamilton Pool.-8 miles of deteriorated roads ▪ Lago Rancho 	3
Street development in Lava Lane (Design-phase is already underway)	4
Street improvements needed on Navarro Creek Drive	4
Water/Sewer Improvements	
Failing septic tanks in Walnut Place (off 290 and Springdale)	1
812 & Elroy Rd/ 973 – water issues – no water at least once per month. Issues with water lines sometimes lasting from 4 hours to 2 days.	4
Public Facilities	
Funding needed for new library in Garfield	4
Housing Needs	
Home Repairs	2
Youth Services	
Youth services in Lava Lane area	4
Use of fields or offset charges at South East metro parks.	4
Non-profit (Hungry for God Home for men 17-24) services to help homeless teens, transitioning out of Texas Youth Commission and Travis County jail.	4
Others Issues Raised	
Fire Hydrants for Lava Lane with fire flow	4

Attachment B: Testimonies Received during Public Hearing at Commissioners Court

During the hearing held at the Commissioner's Court on February 17th, 2009, three persons testified. One of them recommended CDBG funding be spent on providing safe, decent and affordable housing for individuals and family making less than \$22,000 a year. Another person voiced the need for more self-sufficiency programs and the need for defining what "affordable housing" means. The third person pointed out the clients benefitting from CDBG funding have more extensive needs than those currently being served by the social service program of the Travis County Community Centers. The following section includes the testimonies in details.

Jo Kathryn Quinn's testimony Received during the 02/ 17/09 Public Hearing

I'm Jo Kathryn Quinn, the Director of Self-Sufficiency Services at Caritas of Austin. I 'm here today to talk to you about housing for low income individuals and families. I believe that any -- any CDBG funding that the county receives should focus on providing safe, decent and affordable housing for individuals and families making less than \$22,000 a year.

I want to distinguish this from temporary sheltered type housing and say that I believe this housing should be permanent, permanent, stable housing, particularly supportive housing for people with disabilities, who have a difficult time being stable in housing without significant support services to keep them stable in their housing.

It seems to me that a logical contribution that the county could make with CDBG funds, given the level of funding that's expected, is to provide the social services that are needed for people to be stable in housing. The city of Austin will receive funds at levels that -- that can be actually -- actually used to provide the housing, the sticks and bricks, and so -- so it just makes sense that with this level of funding that Travis County receives that we provide the support services to -- to partner with that housing to allow families and individuals to stay in the housing that they so desperately need.

Homelessness is not a necessary social ill. It is a symptom of systematic social failure, which we can reverse. We can make homelessness rare and episodic and a range of housing options is the missing component for our community to realize this goal. Homelessness as we know it on the streets of our major cities has existed only long

enough for some of us to remember the time when our streets were not full of people without homes. And sadly, it has existed long enough for many people in this community to become experts on how to end it.

So we the experts stand ready to work with the -- with Travis County and all interested parties to employ our knowledge to create opportunities for every person to be housed, and to remain housed. CDBG funding must prioritize individuals and families making less than \$22,000 per year. Thank you.

Gus Peña's testimony Received during the 02/ 17/09 Public Hearing
--

Judge, Commissioners, good morning, Gus Peña. I appreciate Ms. Quinn's statements and comments coming in from Caritas as we call it in the Hispanic communities. One of the things, too, the things that were left out of the equation, out of the presentation is number one, self sufficiency. How do people become homeless? Well, you don't just become homeless because you want to become homeless.

What we are seeing now with this, with the recession, even before the recession, we are seeing people losing their jobs, we are talking about the outer lying areas in Travis County instead of the city, I understand the parameters. But also you have a lot of people out there in the county that are losing their jobs and -- and we talk about affordable housing but -- but as I mentioned to H.U.D. and the V.A. and persons for the homeless veterans and their families, let's clearly define affordable housing and affordability.

Nobody has come up with a clear cut definition of affordability. How many times have I been coming over here, City Council, school board talking about affordable housing, not just for individuals, but also for homeless families. You lose a job, you are ill, and jobs are just -- not there anymore, jobs that provide a high skilled -- water high wage enough to -- rather high wage enough to afford to purchase.

One of the things that we in the community have mentioned, I know that you have listened to me the last two or three years, in order to become self sufficient you have to enter a program, for example, transitional housing. When you mention that people think oh, man these people, these people, not me, people have alcohol and substance abuse problems. That's not true, folks. Every time I go everywhere, he want people to know that -- I want people to know this is not the issue.

You have families that are loving and caring, not any kind of -- of abuse problems. they just need a -- a home or an apartment to get into transition into self sufficiency, it's very difficult here in the city of Austin because our city leaders, I have talked to the city

council and the mayor and the city manager, endlessly and boundlessly many times about affordability and the definition lack thereof, people have to be able to get wrap around services mentioned by Ms. Quinn.

Not only that, how are we going to gain self sufficiency, if -- people please forgive me for saying this again, you have to have an income. People on the streets because they don't have an income. They are homeless. Now they need programs to become self sufficient, this will happen in Travis County, also, we know the parameters again. I want to emphasize that again.

But also this is a good program but as Ms. Quinn says, look at the CDBG funding and analyze the needs out there, analyze how we're going to help people get back on their feet, also. it's very important, specially in our precinct Commissioner Davis, poverty is anywhere, not just prevalent in precinct 1 and 4. I appreciate your aggressiveness, judge, I appreciate your leadership, but there's a big need out there for help.

We need to redefine MFI. I have talked to HUD about that, also, anyway, that's all that I have to say, nobody asked me to say anything in regards to their part of town, their part of the county. But remember this, the MFI, self sufficiency, wrap around social services, analyze and review if they are really doing their jobs or if the wages are going up to the directors. A lot of people have concerns about that.

Jane Prince-Maclean's testimony Received during the 02/ 17/09 Public Hearing

Good morning, I'm Jane Prince- Mclean, I work for Travis County health and human services and veterans services in our family support services division. I'm the case management coordinator. I also serve as the project four CDBG Program Manager, which means that we have a social worker who is devoted to serving clients in the unincorporated areas of precinct 1 and 4.

And I just wanted to give you -- she was unable to be here today, she has the flu, sent her apologies, but we wanted to give you information about who she's been serving, what she's been seeing in those unincorporated areas. This is the social work services expansion project and in the first quarter of the fiscal year, she served 74 individuals in those unincorporated areas of the eastern part of our county.

And what we're seeing is that -- is that there's a little bit of a difference in the clients that she's serving versus the clients that we are seeing coming into our community centers

seeing the other social workers in the clients that she's serving have more extensive needs, they have needs for affordable and safe housing and income and some of the other things that you have heard people testify to.

But what we wanted to -- to let you be aware of was that these needs appear to be more intensive and take longer treatment planning to address. And so we wanted to give you a little bit of feedback about what she has seen. Thank you that thank you very much.

Attachment C: Ad to Participate in the Spring

The Public is Invited to Participate

Travis County is eligible to receive an estimated \$833,133 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to benefit Travis County low- to moderate-income residents who live outside any city limit.

HUD awards these grants to communities to carry out a wide range of community development activities aimed at revitalizing neighborhoods, improving affordable housing options, and providing improved community facilities and services.

In accordance with federal guidelines and to best serve the community, Travis County officials and staff are seeking input from residents and service providers of the unincorporated areas of Travis County during a series of public meetings. During these forums, the public will have an opportunity to present community needs and recommend uses for CDBG funds. This information will ultimately be incorporated into the County's Program Year 2009 Annual Action Plan.

The public forums will be held according to the following schedule:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date and Time</u>
Travis County Granger Building Commissioners Courtroom 314 W. 11th St. Austin, TX 78701	Tuesday, February 17, 2009 @ 9:00 am
Travis County Community Center 15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D Pflugerville, Texas	Wednesday, February 18, 2009 @ 6:30 pm
West Rural Community Center 8656-A Hwy 71 W., Suite A Oak Hill, Texas	Thursday, February 19, 2009 @ 6:30 pm
TNR Satellite Office 1 9301 Johnnie Morris Road Austin, Texas 78724	Thursday, February 26, 2009 @ 6:30 pm
South Rural Community Center 3518 FM 973 Del Valle, Texas	Thursday, February 26, 2009 @ 6:30 pm

If you can not attend a public hearing, you can participate by filling out a Citizen Participation Form found at the Travis County Website at www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG/, at one of the seven Travis County Community Centers or by requesting that it be mailed to you at 512-854-3460.

For additional information contact Christy Moffet, at christy.moffett@co.travis.tx.us or call 512-854-3460. To request that an American Sign Language or Spanish interpreter be present at any of the public hearings, please contact staff at least five business days in advance.

Attachment D: Ad to Participate in the Spring (Spanish Version) Invitamos al Público a Participar

El Condado de Travis está calificado para recibir aproximadamente \$ 833,133 en fondos del Programa de Subsidios Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario (conocido como CDBG por sus siglas en inglés) del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD). Este programa beneficia a residentes de ingresos bajos y medianos que viven en las áreas no incorporadas del condado, fuera de los límites de las ciudades.

HUD otorga estos subsidios a comunidades para que lleven a cabo una amplia gama de actividades de desarrollo comunitario, con el fin de revitalizar los vecindarios, mejorar las opciones de viviendas a precios asequibles y brindar mejores instalaciones y servicios comunitarios.

Conforme a los lineamientos federales y para brindar un mejor servicio a la comunidad, los funcionarios y el personal del Condado de Travis están solicitando durante una serie de reuniones públicas las opiniones y sugerencias de los residentes de las áreas no incorporadas del Condado de Travis. Durante estos foros, el público tendrá la oportunidad de identificar necesidades comunitarias y recomendar en que proyectos usar los fondos CDBG. Esta información se incorporará en el Plan de Acción Anual del 2009 del Condado.

Estos foros públicos se llevarán a cabo de acuerdo con el siguiente horario:

<u>Lugar</u>	<u>Fecha y hora</u>
Travis County Granger Building Commissioners Courtroom 9:00 a.m. 314 W. 11th St. Austin, TX 78701	Martes, 17 de febrero de 2009 a las
Travis County Community Center 6:30 p.m. 15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D Pflugerville, Texas	Miercoles, 18 de febrero de 2009 a las
West Rural Community Center 6:30 p.m. 8656-A Hwy 71 W., Suite A Oak Hill, Texas	Jueves, 18 de febrero de 2009 a las

Travis County CDBG Program Year 2009 Action Plan

TNR Satellite Office 1

6:30 p.m.

9301 Johnnie Morris Road

Austin, Texas 78724

Jueves, 26 de febrero de 2009 a las

South Rural Community Center

6:30 p.m.

3518 FM 973

Del Valle, Texas

Jueves, 26 de febrero de 2009 a las

Aquellos que no puedan asistir a los foros públicos, podrán participar llenando la Planilla de Participación Ciudadana. La planilla se puede descargar de la página web del Condado de Travis www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG/, puede recogerse en uno de los siete centros comunitarios del condado, o puede solicitarse para ser enviado por correo llamando al (512) 854-3460.

Para mayor información, comuníquese con Christy Moffett, a través del e-mail christy.moffett@co.travis.tx.us o llamando al (512) 854-3460. Para solicitar que haya un intérprete en español o de lenguaje americano de señas en alguna de estas reuniones, favor contactar al personal CDBG por lo menos con cinco días hábiles de anterioridad.

Attachment E: Public Comment Summary

Every year during the development of the Annual Action Plan, a 30-day public comment period is held to receive comments on the proposed uses of CDBG funds along with two public hearings held at the Travis County Commissioners Court.

On June 23, 2009, the Travis County Commissioners Court approved the PY09 Action Plan draft. During the week of June 1, 2009 Travis County published a Public Notice announcing and summarizing the proposed PY09 Action Plan. A copy of the public notices in both English and Spanish can be found on Attachments F and G of this section.

The notice appeared in several area newspapers that target the unincorporated areas of Travis County. The 30-day public comment period commenced on June 24, 2009 and ended on July 23, 2009. Two public hearings were held at the Travis County Commissioners Courtroom during the 30—day public comment period on June 30, 2009, and July 14, 2009, to receive testimony for the PY09 Action Plan. A total of four comments were received, all occurring at the public hearing.

The following section includes the testimonies in details:

Gus Peña's testimony Received during the 06/ 30/09 Public Hearing
--

Gus Peña: Judge, Commissioners, Gus Peña, native of precinct 4, 2327 east 5th street and Montopolis and, of course, other areas also. Anyway, one of the concerns I had and I brought it to Commissioners court and also to the city council is specifically travel. In this economic downturn of the economy and also, you know, the problems we're having with funding at the county Commissioners court and city council and other governmental bodies, \$81,280 was specifically mentioned for CDBG administration. My question to you -- to y'all would be you mentioned travel. One of the concerns the community has, there's been a lot of travel, a lot of travel that can be incorporated into local areas instead of going to Washington, instead of going to Los Angeles, San Diego, whatever, and gain the information that's needed in Austin and minimize the cost of travel. Could you explain the CDBG administrative portion of the -- of this grant at the tune of 81,280? Because it's not very specific.

Christy Moffett: Sure. Most of -- I think it's probably about \$39,000 is to fund -- and this is estimates. This is off the top of my head. About \$39,000 is to fund part of the 1:00

planner. And then most of the administration costs go to advertising because it's fairly expensive to put the number of ads we do in the newspaper. For travel and training, that includes us going to San Antonio and HUD or to HUD in San Antonio. We have quarterly meetings there where we get updates. And then also we go to an annual conference once a year, and that is sponsored by the National Association of County, Community and Economic Development and then the rest of the training is to support some committee work or any other opportunities that show up, but primarily we stay mostly in the area for training because HUD often offers opportunities. Usually if it's not San Antonio, then it's Fort Worth.

Gus Peña: When you mention training and travel in San Antonio, I mean that's 82 miles away. Specifically what is it for per diem, gas, mileage? What does that entail?

Christy Moffett: If it's an overnight stay, it would be for hotel. It would also be for -- for per diem and also for mileage.

Gus Peña: When I was with the IRS, we did extensive travel but we tried to minimize to certain geographic areas. You know, staying overnight in San Antonio, I know it's not a hardship to travel back to Austin to come b I know it sounds like of -- for us poor folk, that barely have enough money for gas or barely making the mortgagor rent, people are questioning this type of travel expenditure. And I'm glad to hear that the travel and training is minimized to actually maximized here locally in the surrounding geographical areas but I find it a concern and others find it a concern to go to San Antonio and stay overnight for whatever. I'm just voicing concerns from the community and how some of this funding is spent. I know it's under the stimulus package funding. If I'm wrong, please correct me.

Christy Moffett: This is the regular CDBG allocation.

Gus Peña: Whatever. It still baffles the taxpayers as to how funding is used for travel when, you know, come on, overnight in San Antonio, back and forth. So I would like -- I would ask, whoever it be to look at this and see if it is an appropriate expenditure. Appropriate verbiage expenditure that some of the taxpayers are questioning. We try to minimize spending on travel and I'm glad it's being here geographically. And the nonprofit, we're kind of concerned we get the names of the nonprofits that are going to be handling repairs after the fact. Like the UT system, et cetera, after the fact or school district, article in the paper we want to know whose going to be and who makes the list of whatever the verbiage is. That's all have I to say. It's a good program, but funding, travel, et cetera.

Judge Biscoe: On the home repair, the plan is proposed at this time. I guess after the plan is approved, then we will solicit competition for the nonprofits.

Christy Moffett: Correct

Judge Biscoe: So if do you that kind of work, you'll have an opportunity to submit a proposal and be considered. But part of these public hearings is for us to take final action on the plan at some point in the future, and that's projected to be August 15th.

Gus Peña: That is correct. That is correct. But still some of the concerns, this is open court and I know you want to receive concerns from the taxpayers and how expenditures come about. but also again I'll reiterate people would like to know who the competitors or competing agencies are. It's good practice. I guess they call it transparency now. Anyway, that would be a good thing to do. Thank you very much.

Ronnie Reeferseed's testimony Received during the 06/ 30/09 Public Hearing

Ronnie Reeferseed: Just briefly, I'm Ronnie Reeferseed and I'm here to -- often to back up Mr. Gus Peña and his common-sensical ideas. I was just trying to write down and listen to what you all were saying was involved with this -- what's covered under the administration, 81 some odd thousand. Did I mishear you that public comments are somehow included in that figure?

Christy Moffett: It's advertising. It's public advertising.

Ronnie Reeferseed: And why does -- why does that have to -- I understand newspapers sell a lot of money, but is there something in the grant itself that demands that newspapers are used in that way?

Christy Moffett: Yes, we're required by federal regulations.

Ronnie Reeferseed: Okay.

Christy Moffett: And we don't use the Austin American-Statesman. We purposely target areas -- because we focus on the unincorporated area, we target newspapers that target the outlying areas to reduce that admin cost. Because when we were using more expensive techniques it was considerably more. We've actually reduced significantly the amount of our advertising costs.

Ronnie Reeferseed: That's grate. I appreciate that. You say you pay attention to it but like community newspapers and maybe even community radio. There's low cost and there's more and more community radio -- >> [audio difficulties]. or here lately anyway. That's one thing to maybe look into if you wanted to Communication Network 98.1 FM.

Judge Biscoe: Media, we're getting a whole lot of static in here.

Ronnie Reeferseed: and I thought it was me.

Kenneth Koym's testimony Received during the 06/ 30/09 Public Hearing
--

Kenneth Koym: I'm Kenneth Koym, psychotherapist, certified mediator and a person that has sat down with a CDBG-funded social worker as she visited with Ms. Sanchez. Ms. Sanchez has been a single parent. She raised three children. When she tried to get a septic tank for her house, she couldn't get it. She had not been able to hear anybody in close to 22 years dealing with the kind of thing that a single parent, Mrs. Sanchez, this social worker, made the lady feel comfortable. If it had not been CDBG funds, we need the kind of thing that you are passing on and I urge that there's this running -- the money is well spent. So back off.

The public -- the public is in favor of people like Ms. Sanchez getting heard, but taking 21 years. If the notices had of been possible -- I've written grant proposals. It's hell of a hard work. So back off, Ronnie. I'm upset with it. And it's time that this kind of bugging the Commissioners and bugging the public workers, we need support for the people. And it's time for that kind -- I say congratulations. Keep doing the hard work, but we need -- we need the public not to be represented by ugliness and questioning every little bitty issue. It's time that we work together, not how can we use the bible to hit somebody over the head. It ain't -- it's okay if you want to do that, but the American Indians are dead. They are sacred -- >> [inaudible] that remark.

Person in the public: I'm an American Indian and I'm upset with that remark.

Kenneth Koym: What I'm trying to say is that the sacred beliefs of the American Indian have been ignored. They have been protecting our society and the many, many years. I thank you for the correction, but I'm trying to say that the -- the bible using people put an entire race into close to nonexistence. It's well taken that you are here, but my university -

-

Judge Biscoe: We're on a 2009 proposed plan. Any other comments related to it?

Kenneth Koym: Thank you. no, sir. I just trying to say that we really need to support the public workers and the Commissioners court in what it's trying to do. Thank you. Thank you.

Irene Sonnen's testimony Received during the 07/ 14/09 Public Hearing
--

Irene Sonnen: Good morning, Irene Sonnen, a licensed social worker and I was a former CDBG social worker in between 1 and 3. I would like to say this past program year 2008 between October and March I served 34 households with 96 people. I'm sorry, 35 of them were children under the age of 12. 20 were people 56 and plus. I appreciate the increase from 5,000 to -- under \$24,000 per household for the home repair program because what I -- the work that I did and what I saw the homes definitely needed a money. I appreciate continue increase. thank you.

Judge Biscoe: That word "former" is such a harsh word. have you moved on to bigger and better things?

Irene Sonnen: Yes. I am working in Precinct 3.

Judge Biscoe: Good luck to you.

Christy Moffett: we have our new CDBG social worker in the audience now. and that's Jill Smith.

Judge Biscoe: What's her name?

Christy Moffett: Jill smith.

Judge Biscoe: Ms. Smith, how are you doing? You've learned how to keep a low profile, haven't you?

Christy Moffett: She is taking up the caseload and has started to provide services where we had a very smooth transition between Irene and Jill.

Commissioner Eckhart: And this is a wonderful program where you went out to identify households in need and went to them?

Irene Sonnen: Yes, I did. And I saw a lot of need out there. There really is.

Attachment F: Ad for Public Comment



Travis County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Public Notice: Invitation to Comment on the Proposed CDBG Projects for Program Year 2009

Travis County is eligible to receive an estimated \$866,432 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to benefit Travis County low- to moderate-income residents who live in the unincorporated areas of the county. The funds are for the program year 2009 which goes from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010.

CDBG activities are aimed at revitalizing neighborhoods, improving affordable housing options and providing improved community facilities and services. You can comment on the proposed CDBG projects for program year 2009 by attending one of two public hearings or by sending your comments in writing via postal mail or e-mail.

Comment Period and Draft Document

Comments will be accepted for 30 days beginning June 24, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. and ending July 23, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Beginning June 24, 2009, a draft and a summary of the CDBG Action Plan with the list of projects will be available for download on the Travis County CDBG page www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG or available for review at any of the seven Travis County Community Centers:

South Rural Community Center	3518 FM 973, Del Valle
Travis County Community Center	15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D, Pflugerville
West Rural Community Center	8656-A Hwy 71 W., Suite A, Oak Hill
Northwest Rural Community Center	18649 FM 1431, Jonestown
East Rural Community Center	600 W. Carrie Manor, Manor
Palm Square Community Center	100 N. IH-35, Suite 1000, Austin
Post Road Community Center	2201 Post Road, Suite 101, Austin

Public Hearings

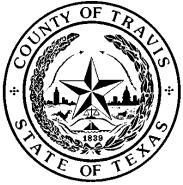
You can provide your comment by attending any of two Public Hearings scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 2009 at 9:00 AM or Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 9:00 AM at Travis County Granger Building, Commissioners Courtroom, 314 W. 11th St, Austin, TX.

Mailing your Comments

You can mail your comments to: CDBG Program, Travis County, HHSVS P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767 or or e-mail them to Christy Moffett at christy.moffett@co.travis.tx.us

Travis County is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call 854-3460 for assistance.

Attachment G: Ad for Public Comment in Spanish



Condado de Travis Programa de Subsidios Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario Aviso Público: Invitación para comentar sobre los Proyectos Propuestos para el Año Programático 2009

El Condado de Travis está calificado para recibir una suma estimada de \$866,432 en fondos del Programa de Subsidios Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG) del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de Estados Unidos (HUD) destinados a beneficiar a residentes de ingresos bajos o medianos que residen en las áreas no incorporadas del condado.

Las actividades CDBG tienen como propósito revitalizar comunidades, mejorar opciones de viviendas asequibles y proporcionar servicios e instalaciones comunitarias mejoradas. El público puede realizar comentarios sobre los proyectos propuestos para el Año Programático 2009 asistiendo a una de dos audiencias públicas o enviando sus comentarios por escrito a través del correo postal o de un correo electrónico.

Periodo de Comentario y Documento Preliminar

Los comentarios públicos se aceptarán por un período de 30 días a partir del 24 de Junio de 2009 a las 8:00 a.m. hasta el 23 de Julio de 2009 a las 5:00 p.m. La versión preliminar y un resumen del Plan estarán disponibles para ser revisados a partir del 24 de junio de 2009 en la página web www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG o en los siguientes centros comunitarios:

Centro Comunitario Rural del Sur	3518 FM 973, Del Valle
Centro Comunitario del Condado de Travis	15822 Foothills Farm Loop, Bldg D, Pflugerville
Centro Comunitario Rural del Oeste	8656-A Hwy 71 W., Suite A, Oak Hill
Centro Comunitario Rural del Noroeste	18649 FM 1431, Jonestown
Centro Comunitario Rural del Este	600 W. Carrie Manor, Manor
Centro Comunitario de Palm Square	100 N. IH-35, Suite 1000, Austin
Centro Comunitario de Post Road	2201 Post Road, Suite 101, Austin

Audiencia Pública

El público puede suministrar sus comentarios asistiendo a cualquiera de dos Audiencias Públicas planificadas para el Martes 30 de Junio de 2009 a las 9:00 AM y el Martes 14 de Julio de 2009 a las 9:00 AM en la Sala de la Corte Comisionada ubicada en el Edificio Granger del

Condado de Travis, en la dirección 314 W. 11th St, Austin, TX.

Envío de Comentarios

El público puede enviar sus comentarios por correo postal a la dirección: CDBG Program, Travis County HHSVS P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767 o por e-mail a Christy Moffett al correo electrónico christy.moffett@co.travis.tx.us

El Condado de Travis está comprometido a cumplir con la Ley de Americanos con Discapacidades (ADA) y con la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según su enmienda. Al solicitarlo, se proporcionarán modificaciones razonables e igual acceso a comunicaciones. Si necesita ayuda, por favor llame al 854-3460.



Travis County

Appendix C: List of Priorities for the 2006-2010 Period

Program Year 2009:
(October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010)
Annual Action Plan



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service

CDBG Priorities for the 2006-2010 Period

Housing			
OWNER HOUSING GOALS	PRIORITY LEVEL	RENTAL HOUSING GOALS	PRIORITY LEVEL
Production of new units	High	Production of new units	Medium
Infrastructure to support affordable housing development	High	Rental Assistance	Medium
Rehabilitation of existing units	High	Acquisition of existing units	Medium
Acquisition of existing units	Medium	Rehabilitation of existing units	Medium
Homebuyer Assistance	Medium		
Community Development			
PUBLIC SERVICE NEEDS	PRIORITY LEVEL	PUBLIC FACILITY	PRIORITY LEVEL
Other Public Service Needs	High	Senior Centers	Medium
Youth Services	High	Handicapped Centers	Medium
Employment Training	Medium	Homeless Facilities	Medium
Child Care Services	Medium	Youth Centers	Medium
Transportation Services	Medium	Child Care Centers	Medium
Substance Abuse Services	Medium	Other Public Facility Needs	Medium
Health Services	Medium	Health Facilities	Low
Senior Services	Medium	Neighborhood Facilities	Low
Lead Hazard Screening	Low	Parks and/or Recreation Facilities	Low
Crime Awareness	Low	Parking Facilities	Low
		Non-Residential Historic Preservation	Low
INFRASTRUCTURE	PRIORITY LEVEL	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	PRIORITY LEVEL
Water/Sewer Improvements	High	ED Assistance to For-Profits	Low
Street Improvements	High	ED Technical Assistance	Low
Sidewalks	Medium	Micro-Enterprise Assistance	Low
Solid Waste Disposal Improvements	Medium	Rehab; Publicly- or Privately Owned Commercial/Industrial	Low
Flood Drain Improvements	Medium	C/I Infrastructure Development	Low
Other: Litter Abatement/clearance	Medium	Other C/I Improvements	Low
Other: Erosion Abatement	Medium		
Parks and/or Recreation Facilities	Low		



Travis County

Appendix D: Certifications

Program Year 2009:
(October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010)
Annual Action Plan



-Prepared by Travis County Health & Human Services & Veterans Service



ACTION PLAN CERTIFICATION

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing -- The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing, which means it will conduct an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction, take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting that analysis and actions in this regard.

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR 24; and it has in effect and is following a residential antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG or HOME programs.

Drug Free Workplace -- It will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

1. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
2. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about –
 - o The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - o The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - o Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - o The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
3. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph 1;
4. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph 1 that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will –
 - o Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - o Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
5. Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
6. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b), with respect to any employee who is so convicted –
 - o Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - o Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
7. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Anti-Lobbying -- To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

8. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

Travis County CDBG Program Year 2009 Action Plan

9. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
10. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction -- The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds are consistent with the strategic plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

___/___/09

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Samuel T. Biscoe

Name

County Judge

Title

P.O. Box 1748

Address

Austin, Texas 78767

City/State/Zip

512/854-9555

Telephone Number

Specific CDBG Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated housing and community development plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities primarily for persons of low and moderate income. (See CFR 24 570.2 and CFR 24 part 570)

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan (or Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

11. **Maximum Feasible Priority** - With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it certifies that it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available);
12. **Overall Benefit** - The aggregate use of CDBG funds including section 108 guaranteed loans during program year(s) 2009(a period specified by the grantee consisting of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years), shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period;
13. **Special Assessments** - It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

The jurisdiction will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108, unless CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of fee or assessment attributable to the capital costs of public improvements financed from other revenue sources. In this case, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds. Also, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

14. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
15. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Compliance With Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 USC 3601-3619), and implementing regulations.

Travis County CDBG Program Year 2009 Action Plan

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R, of title 24;

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

__/__/2009

Signature/Authorized Official

Date

Samuel T. Biscoe

Name

County Judge

Title

P.O. Box 1748

Address

Austin, TX 78767

City/State/Zip

512/854-9555

Telephone Number

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

Instructions Concerning Lobbying and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Drug-Free Workplace Certification

1. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification.
2. The certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, HUD, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
3. Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.
4. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio stations).
5. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph three).
6. The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant: Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)
Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here. The certification with regard to the drug-free workplace is required by 24 CFR part 21.

Place Name	Street	City	County	State	Zip
Palm Square Building	100 N. IH 35	Austin	Travis	TX	78701
Granger Building	314 W. 11th	Austin	Travis	TX	78701
Executive Office Building	411 W. 13th	Austin	Travis	TX	78701
East Rural Community Center	600 W. Carrie Manor	Manor	Travis	TX	78653
South Rural Community Center	3518 FM 973	Del Valle	Travis	TX	78617

7. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules: "Controlled substance" means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15); "Conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of *nolo contendere*) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes; "Criminal drug statute" means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance; "Employee" means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including:
 - o All "direct charge" employees;
 - o all "indirect charge" employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and
 - o temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Note that by signing these certifications, certain documents must be completed, in use, and on file for verification. These documents include:

1. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Travis County CDBG Program Year 2009 Action Plan

- 2. Citizen Participation Plan
- 3. Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan

08/07/07

Signature/Authorized Official Date

Samuel T. Biscoe

Name

County Judge

Title

P.O. Box 1748

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